The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

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THIRD EDITION.

THE "PEOPLE OFFICE."
Saturday Evening.

CHINO-JAPANESE WAR.

CAPTURE OF YUNG-CHING.

FALL OF NING-HAI.

THE PEACE OVERTURES.

YOKOHAMA, Jan. 25.—An official despatch from Gen. Nodzu regarding the recent fighting near New-chwang says:—The enemy attacked Hai-cheng on the 17th inst. There were 8,000 men under Gen. Chang on our right wing, and 6,000 under Gen. Twi on our left wing. Twenty-one dead bodies were found after the fighting, including those of two officers. The natives state that the Chinese lost over 100 men. After camping in the neighbourhood of Chang-hu-tai and Yen-tai, the Chinese retreated northwards next morning. An official despatch received at headquarters announces that the Japanese took Yueng Chang Shen on the night of the 20th inst. There has been fresh fighting round Haichang. On the morning of the 22nd, the Chinese, who were 10,000 strong, again attacked the Japanese position, but were repulsed by two o'clock in the afternoon with heavy loss. They left 100 dead on the field. On the Japanese side none were killed, and there were only 28 wounded.—REUTER.

SHANGHAI, Jan. 25.—It has now been definitely arranged that Chang Yin Huan and Shao Yao Len, the Chinese Ambassadors appointed to negotiate peace with Japan, shall leave here immediately. It is stated on good authority that the Envoys will not be received by the Japanese Government, unless they bear credentials investing them with full powers to propose final terms of peace. Several Japanese war vessels have started southwards to intercept any Chinese vessels carrying contraband of war.—REUTER.

TOKIO, Jan. 25.—An official notification has been received here that the Chinese Envoys commissioned to negotiate terms of peace will proceed to Japan by the mail steamer Empress of China, which sails from Shanghai to-day. They will, on arrival, proceed by train from Kobe to Hiroshima, where the Emperors and the Ministers are at present. The suite of the Chinese Plenipotentiaries numbers 60 persons.—REUTER.

CHEFOO, Jan. 24.—Early this morning a strong force of Japanese troops landed in Ning-hai Inlet. The landing was covered by the guns of a dozen war-ships, but there was no opposition. The troops at once marched upon the city of Ning-hai, situated on the high road midway between Chefoo and Wei-hai-wei. It is reported that the city fell into the hands of the Japanese after a very feeble resistance. The Japanese are now marching upon Lu-kow, whence they will attack Wei-hai-wei in co-operation with the Japanese army which recently landed at Yung-tcheng. The latter force will probably have to fight at Feng-lin. The rapid and cleverly-devised movements of the Japanese simply paralyse the Chinese generals. Great excitement prevails here: for Ning-hai is only 20 miles east of Chefoo, and fugitives from that place are arriving. It is realised that Chefoo is now actually within the area of war.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—A private telegram received here reports the safety of the missionaries at Tung-chow-foo, the town to the west of Chefoo, which was recently bombarded by the Japanese.—REUTER.

A Central News telegram from Talienwan says:—The Third Army has carried out brilliantly and successfully the preliminary operations in connection with the projected capture of Wei-hai-wei. The command was given to Gen. Sakuma. He arrived off Yung-Ching on the morning of Sunday last. A blinding snowstorm prevailed, but the warships and transports managed to enter the bay without serious difficulty, as all the captains had recently been supplied with charts. Boats full of marines were sent from the leading ships, and, owing to the snowstorm, they were not observed until close in shore. Then a four-gun battery, mounted behind strong earthworks, opened fire, but without doing much damage to the Japanese, who were soon ashore. Other boatloads soon followed, and marines and infantry were forming up for an assault upon the earthworks, when the weather suddenly cleared, and the Chinese for the first time saw the formidable array of warships and transports in the bay, and were enabled to estimate the chances of offering a successful resistance. The Chinese did not wait to fight. Both the Chinese troops facing the landing-place and another force further south immediately abandoned their positions, and retreated along the road to the village of Khiao-thou. When last heard of they had taken up positions in and around Feng-lin, just to the east of Wei-hai-wei. The fortress of Yung-Ching was not defended. The Japanese marines and infantry marched upon it with great spirit, and the men were disappointed at not having a fight for its possession. The frost is keen, and the road to Wei-hai-wei in good condition. Wei-hai-wei will be attacked with the least possible delay. Marshal Oyama and his staff have gone to Yung-Ching. The marshal will personally direct the operations against Wei-hai-wei. Gen. Sakuma will lead the assault. The fleet will co-operate.

The Exchange Telegraph Company has been informed that Mr. T. Kato, who succeeds Viscount Aoki as Japanese Minister to the Court of St. James's, resided in this country from 1883 to 1885. He has filled high positions in Japan as Chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, and as Director of the Bureau for Revenue. At the Koyokan, or Maple Club, of Tokio he was entertained at a banquet just prior to his departure by a large number of distinguished persons, including the Ministers and Vice Ministers of State, members and officials of the Japanese Diet, and of various departments, as well as many influential residents and the principal bankers. The importance of Mr. Kato's position is not a little enhanced by the immense interest attaching to the operations of his sovereign's armies in China. Viscount Aoki, who was accredited to Berlin as well as to London, will for the present remain in Germany.

LATEST NEWS ITEMS.

HOME.

At Brentford, George Shortlands was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for assaulting Mrs. Godfrey, of Milestone House, Hounslow.

As a blacksmith named Tripp was proceeding to work on the Great Western Railway at Taplow, he was knocked down and instantly killed by a train.

Two farmers named Young have been arrested near Skibbereen for assaulting a farmer named O'Neill, a neighbour, whose dying depositions have been taken.

At a meeting of the directors of the Barry Railway Company, at Cardiff, a dividend of 10 per cent. was declared, £8,000 being carried forward.

The arrangements for the holding of the annual assembly of the Baptist Churches of Great Britain are in an advanced state, and will be issued to the pastors and delegates in a few days.

A Swansea telegram states that a disastrous fire occurred on the premises of Mr. Svenssen, a tobacconist, of Quay Parade. Svenssen, his wife, and four children were rescued with difficulty.

The Government of Western Australia is calling for tenders from the leading firms in England and on the continent for rails to be used in the construction of lines to the Murchison and Coolgardie Gold Fields.

At the County of London Sessions, John Henry M'Kivett was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment for unlawfully intimidating William Haden during a strike at a glass factory in South Hackney, in December last.

An old farmer named William Parkinson committed suicide at Darwen by hanging himself. Deceased has been depressed this week because he had been locked up on account of not paying his wife's maintenance allowance.

Waterhouse's official statistics show that the net average selling price of finished iron in the North of England in November and December was £4 16s. 10d., which is a decrease of 1s. 2. Wages from Monday have been reduced 3d. per ton in puddling, and 2½ per cent. in other productions is announced.

At the London Coal Exchange a meeting of merchants was held at which it was decided, in view of the slight revival in trade consequent upon the cold weather, to advance the price of coal sold from trolleys in the street 1s. 3d. per ton, or 1d. per cwt. Other retail prices remained unchanged.

It has been found that 30 bolts in the port-engine condenser of the cruiser Sybille, at Plymouth, have been smashed or distorted. The Admiralty has ordered all the bolts to be refitted and an inquiry to be held. The torpedo-boat destroyer Ferret fouled a buoy in the Hamoaze and knocked in five of her plates.

Mr. A. G. Potter, a well-known farmer, of Leigh Court, near Worcester, was shooting alone on his farm, and was crossing a small brook in a plantation, when he fell, and the gun which he was carrying exploded. The charge passed right through Mr. Potter's head and killed him instantly. His body was afterwards found lying across the stream.

FOREIGN.

In the Spanish Senate held at Madrid, the Minister of Justice read a bill providing for the reform of the penal code and the administration of justice.

The Argentine Congress has adopted the proposal for a general amnesty for political offenders, which was the principal cause of President Saens Pena's resignation. The extraordinary session was then closed.

The mission despatched to the Sultan of Morocco to remit to the Spanish Government a portion of the indemnity claimed in consequence of the events at Melilla, is expected to arrive at Madrid on Monday.

The situation in regard to the tramcar strikers is unchanged at Brooklyn. The mob became threatening once or twice during Thursday, but there was no heart in their opposition, and they were easily dispersed. Present appearances indicate that the company will win.

LONDON STEAMER ASHORE.

During a thick snowstorm on Friday night the Manock, a large London steamer of nearly 4,000 tons, went ashore on the beach between Hensby and Winterton, on the Norfolk coast. The steamer, which was light, was bound north. Five tugs are now in attendance in the hope of getting her off, but they have not yet succeeded. The crew refused to leave the ship by means of the rocket apparatus.

WRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE.

The vessel Alnwick has been wrecked in St. Patrick's Causeway. The crew were saved.—A telegram from Boston (Linc.) states that the trawler Athlete, of Grimsby, from the North Sea with fish, was towed in dismasted and otherwise damaged. The steam trawler Kirton was towed in with bridge washed away, and loss of skipper and third hand. The steam trawler Skirbeck arrived with loss of third hand.—The Press Association's Dunbar correspondent telegraphs that the fishing boat Tweed has been lost off the coast with, it is believed, seven hands.—A Portreath telegram states that the steamer Exurial of Glasgow, from Cardiff to Fiume, drifted ashore at Portreath, near St. Ives, on Friday, in consequence of the engines becoming disabled. The rocket apparatus failed to reach the vessel, and the Hayle lifeboat, after floating, was washed ashore again. Most of the crew, which were shipped at Cardiff, jumped from the rigging. Conflicting telegrams have been received by the owners of the vessel as to the number drowned. One message stated that the master and 13 of the crew had perished, another says that eight out of the crew of 19 hands have been saved. The body of the master, Capt. Andrew, of Leith, has been washed ashore. A later telegram from Portreath stated that the eight men who threw themselves into the sea were saved. The names of five had been ascertained, these being Charles Iverson (Cardiff), Gregg (Glasgow), Martin, Forest, and Nobleman. At noon on Friday the hundreds of people who lined the beach saw the men who had stayed on the wreck drop from the rigging. The lifeboat was only 300 yards away, but powerless to help them. The inhabitants of the district have done their utmost to render assistance to the shipwrecked men.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

VICTORY AT EVESHAM.

The result of the contest in the Evesham or South Division of Worcestershire was announced on Wednesday as follows:—

Lieut.-col. Chas. Wigram Long (C.)	4,760
Mr. Frederic Impey (G.)	3,585
Unionist majority	1,175

At the 1885 election the Conservative majority was 232, which on the introduction of Home Rule into Mr. Gladstone's programme increased to 1,736 the following year, but fell to 380 at the last election, when the Irish question was kept in the background.

PENDING ELECTION.

PADDINGTON, S.—Lord R. Churchill's death creates a vacancy in connection with which Mr. Fardell's name is mentioned. The seat is a safe Conservative one. Lord Randolph was not opposed at the last general election, when he enjoyed the distinction of being the first member elected to the House of Commons. In 1886 Mr. Page Hopps, a Unitarian Minister of Leicester, contested the seat, but only polled 769 votes against the 2,576 given to Lord Randolph. According to the Exchange Telegraph Company the Radicals intend to contest the division. The writ will not be issued until Parliament meets.

NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

CARDIFF.—Sir E. J. Reed (G.), M.P., retires.

DERBY.—Mr. Geoffrey Drage (C.) is expected to stand.

NORTH RIDING, Cleveland.—Col. Ropner (U.) will probably stand.

WEST RIDING, Keighley.—Sir I. Holden (G.), M.P., retires.

FORFARSHIRE.—Mr. J. M. White (G.), refusing to stand, the Gladstonites are seeking another candidate.

WARWICKSHIRE, Stratford.—Mr. T. Sadler (G.), who unsuccessfully contested Harrow at the general election, will oppose Mr. A. F. Mitford, M.P. (C.).

STAFFORDSHIRE, Burton.—Mr. T. Mosseley (U.), owing to ill-health, retires.

SHROPSHIRE, Oswestry.—Mr. M. Ffoulkes, of Liverpool, stands as a temperance candidate.

PEMBROKE.—Mr. C. H. E. Allen, M.P. (G.) will stand again. Gen. Laurie is the Conservative candidate.

HALIFAX.—Mr. Stansfeld (G.) is asked to reconsider his decision to retire.

KINGSTON, Surrey.—Unionist Hundred leave it to local associations to appoint a committee to deal finally with disputed candidature question.

STRANGE WILL SUIT.

In the Probate Division the case Parker and others v. Pattinson was heard. This suit had reference to the testamentary dispositions of the late Miss Emma Jane Parker Willes, who died on the 28th Oct., 1893, at Great Baddow, Essex, at the advanced age of 83. Plaintiffs, as executors, propounded a will dated the 1st Sept., 1893. Probate was opposed by the defendant, a relative of the deceased, who alleged unsound mind and non-approval of the contents, he seeking to establish an earlier will. The property in dispute amounted to about £36,000.—Sir E. Clarke, Q.C. (with whom was Mr. Barnard), who appeared for the plaintiffs, said that by the last will almost the whole of the property was given to charitable institutions, amounting to about £25,000. There were certain legacies given to the servants who were in the employment of the deceased at the time of her death. The residue of the estate was left to a lady and gentleman who had not the smallest idea that they were going to benefited—the Rev. Piers Claughton and his sister, the son and daughter of the late Bishop of St. Albans. The principal defendant was the great nephew of the deceased who personally had known very little of her indeed. There was originally a plea put on the record that the will was procured by the undue influence of the Rev. Archibald Claughton, who has now become the Bishop of Colchester, but that imputation had now been withdrawn. For years he was a friend of the deceased, and he was aware of the circumstances under which this will was made. She made in all four wills, in the making of which she employed different solicitors, not capriciously, but in each case for an intelligent and natural reason. For a good many years she lived at Great Baddow, Essex, she living over 30 years in the vicarage there. Down to her death she was a careful, shrewd, business woman, but she had one delusion, she thought that some person had been trying to poison her.—The case was then adjourned.—On his lordship taking his seat on Tuesday, Mr. Bucknill, who appeared for defendant, informed his lordship that he was happy to say an amicable arrangement had been come to. Defendant had accepted the terms offered, and it had been arranged that the will of 1893 should be pronounced for and the terms filed.—Sir F. Jeune said the parties had exercised great discretion, and the terms agreed to were proper both to those who made them and those who accepted them. By consent he, therefore, pronounced for the will of 1893. He further directed that the terms should be filed, and he certified for a special jury.

REV. PIERS CLAUGHTON.

EXPLOSION ON A POWDER BARGE.

Early on Thursday morning a sailing barge, the Petrel, which had been despatched from the Woolwich Arsenal on Tuesday night with a new 12in. quick-firing gun for trial at Shoeburyness, and which also had on board two-and-a-half tons of powder and three boatloads of live shell, caught fire while lying in Lower Hope Reach, near the mouth of the Thames. Two men and a boy, who were on board, succeeded in getting away before the fire reached the powder; but the master remained on board, endeavouring to battle with the flames. Shortly after several explosions took place, the barge was blown to pieces, and the gun sank. The narrative of the survivors is rather sensational. The efforts to get the barge off proving futile, they went below, had a smoke, and went to sleep, one of the men, Greensmith, keeping watch on deck. At a quarter to 12 he noticed smoke issuing from the forecastle, and called to the crew, "We are on fire. For God's sake come up and dive overboard!" Greensmith and another man, named Hoar, immediately jumped overboard, and, after reaching the shore, found that the lad was not with them. They returned, and persuaded him to jump from the vessel, Hoar catching him in the arms and conveying him to land. The master, named Herbert Lott, remained behind to try to battle with the flames, and he was last seen jumping overboard, with his clothes on fire, and he has not been seen or heard of since. The survivors then kept away at a safe distance and watched the result. When explosion after explosion having taken place, they found everything was lost, they made their way in search of the nearest house. Hoar was without shoes or cap; and the wet clothing of all was frozen. They walked along the rough and stony beach, a distance of eight miles, and it was about a quarter to four in the morning when they reached a house, where they were supplied with dry clothing and food, afterwards proceeding to Woolwich. The survivors are unable to assign any cause for the fire.

LORD R. CHURCHILL—LATEST.

The Press Association learns that, at the request of the Prime Minister, the Dean of Westminster has given permission for a memorial service to be held in the Abbey at 12.30 to-morrow, the hour at which the funeral take place at Bladon. Members of either House of Parliament, accompanied by not more than one member of their family, will be admitted to the choir and lantern by the Jerusalem Chamber entrance on presentation of their cards. A limited number of special tickets for admission to the choir will be issued to members of the family and personal friends on application to Viscount Curzon, M.P., 50, Grosvenor-square.

The Press Association understands that only the male members of the late Lord Randolph Churchill's family will attend the funeral service, and that the female members will attend the memorial service at the Abbey. According to present arrangements, the remains will be taken from 50, Grosvenor-square, at 9 a.m. on Monday, and conveyed to Paddington Station, passing through a portion of his lordship's late constituency en route, and it is expected that the local political organisations will arrange some kind of demonstration of respect and esteem. Arrived at Paddington, the coffin will be placed in a special car attached to the 9.50 train, and coaches will be provided for the convenience of members of the family and other mourners. At Oxford the special portion of the train will be detached, and will be taken on to Blenheim and Woodstock Station by a second engine. The interment will take place at Bladon, but as the church there will not be large enough to accommodate those who will probably like to attend the funeral service, this service will be held at Woodstock Church, about a mile and a half from Bladon. It is not yet known definitely who will officiate at the funeral and memorial services, but it is not improbable that the Bishop of Oxford may take part in the former, and the Dean of Westminster in the latter. The Rev. Edgar Sheppard, sub dean of the Chapel Royal, who is a friend of the Churchill family, and who held the special service at the house on Thursday morning, is likely to assist at one or the other of the services. Several prominent personages, including a member of the Royal Family, and a leading politician, have urged upon Lord Curzon that the most effective way of paying respect to Lord Randolph Churchill's memory would be to accompany the remains to their last resting-place, but as there are difficulties in the way of this arrangement, it is believed that, generally speaking, the funeral service will be reserved for the relatives, tenantry, and residents in the vicinity of Blenheim, while political and other friends desiring to show respect will attend the celebration in the Abbey. Lord Rosebery will most probably be present at the memorial service, together with other colleagues of the Cabinet. The Paddington Conservative Association has asked to be allowed to send a representative deputation.

Letters of condolence have been sent to the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough by the Queen and the Prince of Wales, and the latter has written to Lady Randolph also. Telegrams have been received from the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe Coburg, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duc d'Aumale, and the Comtesse de Paris. An enormous number of letters and telegrams have come from political clubs and associations throughout the United Kingdom, many of them from Ireland, where his lordship's work in connection with the Duchess of Marlborough's Irish Famine Fund is still gratefully remembered. Most of the letters contained copies of resolutions passed at specially convened meetings.

In an interview on Friday with a representative of the Press Association, Lord Curzon said messages had been received by every member of the family, and they were all touched by the [illegible] and spontaneous sympathy displayed by various London and provincial newspapers, he said, had been most kind in their notices, and knowing as he did, that the English Press was a reflector of public opinion in the country, he thought this was particularly gratifying. He knew that the late Lord Randolph had a great hold on sections of the community, but the extent of that hold, as evinced in the opinions reflected by the Press, was most extraordinary. The kindness of those who had delivered or sent sympathetic messages was also greatly appreciated by all concerned.

The outer coffin in which the remains will be interred at Bladon will be of polished mahogany, with bronze fittings of handsome design, and the breast plate will bear the following inscription:—"Randolph Henry Spencer Churchill, born 13th Feb., 1849; died 24th Jan., 1895."

The executive council of the Walworth Conservative and Liberal Unionist Association have passed a resolution expressive of deep regret at the loss the country has sustained by the death of Lord Randolph Churchill. The resolution, which has been forwarded to Lady Randolph Churchill, also sympathises with her at the death of her husband.

THE SICK LIST.

Mr. Robert Harcourt is progressing favourably.—The improvement noted in Viscount Sudley's condition is maintained.—Professor Cayley, the mathematician, is lying in a state of prostration at Cambridge.—Lady Colin Campbell is much better.—Nubar Pasha is progressing.—The condition of M. Jules Guesde, the French Socialist Deputy, has undergone a change for the worse.—Sir H. Ponsonby's condition is unchanged.—Col. Bridge is better.—Madame Patti is suffering from a chill.—Mr. Lewis, M.P., is improving.

CABINET COUNCIL.

A Cabinet Council was held at 10, Downing-street, at noon on Friday. The Prime Minister and Lord Rosebery (ex-Chief Whip of the Liberal party) were at Downing-street some time before 12, and were joined early by the Postmaster-General (a former Whip), and subsequently by Sir William Harcourt. All the Ministers had assembled at Downing-street at 12.30, with the exception of Lord Spencer, Lord Ripon, and Mr. Asquith. The Council broke up at a quarter to 2. Lord Ripon's absence was due to his inability to speak at Blackburn. The Cabinet is understood to be making considerable progress with the items of the Government programme, but they will probably leave the arrangement of the order of precedence till their last meeting before the resumption of Parliament. In this connection it may be definitely stated that though Lord Rosebery intended in his Cardiff speech some of the measures which he would like to see passed before the dissolution of Parliament, the Cabinet has not gone beyond settling that the Welsh Disestablishment Bill shall take the first place. Another meeting of the Cabinet will probably be held towards the end of next week.

TROUBLES OF MISS BRANSCOMBE.

Mr. Alexander Hamilton Gunn, of Whitehall-court, was summoned before Sir John Bridge, at Bow-street, by Miss Maude Branscombe, for using threats on Jan. 15, whereby she went in danger of her life or of serious bodily harm.—Mr. Arthur Newton said his client was formerly well known on the stage, but retired a few years ago in order to live with defendant, who is a company promoter. At the time her mother had just died, and she was in great distress. Defendant threatened her on several occasions, and complainant left him from time to time, but at his request always returned. His conduct became so atrocious that she determined to leave him for good. She took advantage of defendant's temporary absence in Scotland to remove from Whitehall-court, where she had lived with the defendant, to Bernard-street. On the day following the defendant's return, she went to his rooms to settle some matters of business. She told him that she did not intend to live with him again and that everything between them must be at an end. This interview took place in the dining-room. Defendant locked the door, and told complainant that he did not intend to let her leave him. He dragged her across the room, and, taking up a dagger-shaped knife, threatened to stab her. He kept her in the room from 12 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock at night. During the whole of that time he was abusing her. Complainant acted as his secretary and typewriter. He paid her no money for her services, and he did not want to lose her. He dragged her across the room and hurt her back against a sofa, saying he would not let her go until she had told him where she was living. A man named Butler, who was in the employment of the defendant, was in the next room, but did not interfere.—Defendant was called, and said complainant had been living with him for four or five years.—Sir John Bridge: What are you?—Defendant: A railway contractor. When complainant called upon him on the day referred to in the summons, he asked the meaning of a letter she had sent to him by his servant. She said she was determined to have a settlement as to the future of herself and child. He told her that if she behaved herself he would take care of her, as he had promised to do at her mother's death. On the afternoon named complainant had mock turtle soup and two glasses of whisky. He had never treated her with anything but kindness, and had never threatened her in his life. When she left him on the last occasion she promised to see him again the next day.—Mr. Bodkin said it was evident that complainant had made a misstatement as to the refreshment, and he submitted that on this ground she was not entitled to be believed on other points.—Sir John Bridge said if anything was calculated to make a man angry it was for a woman to leave him in the manner described. It appeared that he had got angry and had made use of threats. It was not, however, a case for sureties, and he should bind defendant over in £200 to keep the peace for 12 months.

MISS M. BRANSCOMBE.

MR. A. HAMILTON GUNN.

SLANDER SUIT BETWEEN SURGEONS.

The case of Meerwald v. Jolly came before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury in the Queen's Bench Division. It was an action brought by Dr. Osborne Spencer Meerwald, a surgeon and medical practitioner, practising at Acton, against the defendant, Dr. Samuel Aird Jolly, a surgeon and medical practitioner, practising at the same place, to recover damages for alleged slander.—Adjourned till Monday.

ALLEGED SHOPLIFTER'S DIARY.

The well-dressed, aged lady, said to be of independent means, who was charged at Marylebone last week, and refused to give her name and address, was on Friday brought up before Mr De Rutzen, who was informed that she had passed as Mrs. Elizabeth Sims, and lodged at 57, Queen's-road, Bayswater. The charge entered against her was for having stolen two pieces of silk worth £2 8s., the property of Mr. W. Whiteley, of Westbourne-grove.—Mr. Humphreys said that at her lodgings two large boxes and a smaller one were found in her room full of property, which later on would be spoken to by representatives from Messrs. Peter Robinson, Schoolbred, Marshall and Snelgrove, and Mr. Owen, of Westbourne-grove. When arrested, the prisoner was found wearing a dark plush mantle, inside of which was a very large pocket and a smaller one, one of which had evidently been added with a purpose. Amongst other things found was a diary, in which appeared the entry:—"Jan. 14. Shoolbred's—Nothing worth noticing." (Laughter.) She had made statements which would have an important bearing upon the issue before the court.—Mr. Oatley, the prisoner's landlord, stated that Sims had lodged at his house for about twelve years.—Remanded in custody.

EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT.

A remarkable accident occurred on Friday morning in Albemarle-street, when a horse drawing a phaeton belonging to Mr. N. B. Gooch bolted. The animal dashed through the large plate glass window of Messrs. Butcher and Smith, tie and collar makers, the vehicle getting jammed in the framework. The driver was thrown off his seat and was taken to St. George's Hospital with a broken leg. The carriage was much damaged, and great havoc was wrought among the contents of the shop window.

Miss Soames, widely known for her great interest in religious education for girls, died at Brighton on Friday.

RAID ON WEST-END CLUBS.

INLAND REVENUE PROSECUTIONS.

At Marlborough-street on Friday, Ernest Hafton 44, who was described as a club steward, was charged with having sold spirits and tobacco without a license.—Det.-sergt. Shaddock said that at a quarter-past that morning he went to the Elysium Club, Broad-street, Golden-square, accompanied by another officer, and was admitted by the doorkeeper. He saw prisoner and told him the object of his visit. Hafton said, "I did not think you would take me with a warrant. I thought that we were summoned." He read the warrant to him, and detained him till the arrival of a Revenue officer. He was taken to Marlborough Mews Station, where he made no answer to the charge.—Arthur Wellesley Elliott said that he was employed as an extra man by the Inland Revenue Department. On the 21st Oct. he went to the Elysium Club with a man named Mitchell and a foreigner at half-past 1 in the morning. He knocked at the door, and when it had been opened by the porter walked inside without being questioned. In the club room, which was downstairs, there were a number of persons, including the defendant. He ordered drinks and paid for them. He was served by the waiter.—Mr. Newton: Are you a member of this club?—Elliott, after some hesitation, held up a red ticket, and replied, "Well, sir, if that constitutes membership, I am. I went to the club again, and was told that I must become a member, as they were afraid of the Inland Revenue. This ticket was then given me, but I was not formally proposed."—Cross-examined: He wrote his name in a book before receiving the ticket. He had really been to the club three times, and the card was given to him on the last occasion.—Ernest Mitchell said he was with Elliott on Oct. 21, and also bought drink and cigars. After he had been there some time a ticket was given him by the secretary for which he had to pay 1s. He had been there twice with Elliott on both occasions the defendant was there serving behind the bar. The ticket was dated September.—Arthur Llewellyn, a detective supervisor of the Inland Revenue, said that he was present when prisoner was arrested. There were about 35 to 40 people present, most of whom said they were not members of the club, and very few of whom gave names which were upon the list of members. In December he called upon the defendant, and he (Hafton) told him that he was the proprietor of the club, and responsible for its management. Neither the visitors' nor the members' book had any dates in it.—Hafton declared that he had a tobacco license now in force, and had had one for years.—Mr. Llewellyn said that could not be the case, as he had had no record of any such license in the defendant's name.—Mr. Alpe produced a tobacco license in the defendant's name for the year 1893, and said that that was the latest issued to the defendant. If a remand were granted he could produce other witnesses.—Mr. Newton remanded Hafton for a week, requiring bail in £100.

EVIDENCE OF INFORMERS.

Pieter Cronerberg, 46, a club proprietor, was charged with selling beer, spirits, and tobacco without a license.—Det.-insp. Towner said that shortly before 1 o'clock that morning, accompanied by other officers, he went to the Whitfield Club, Whitfield-street, and was admitted by the porter. Prisoner was in the club-room near the bar. Defendant asked him, when he read the warrant, why the prosecution had not been undertaken before.—The witness Elliott said that he went to the club on the 23rd of October, at 2 o'clock in the morning, with Mitchell and a German. On knocking at the gate they were admitted to a yard which led to the club-room. They walked straight into the club-room and ordered whisky and beer at the bar. A waiter served them, and he (Elliott) paid for the drink. He went again on Oct. 26. On neither occasion was he questioned in any way. He was not a member, and no suggestion was ever made that he should become one.—Mitchell also gave evidence.—Mr. Llewellyn said on Dec. 2 he called upon defendant, and asked him for an explanation of his having sold liquor to persons who were not members. In the course of the interview the prisoner said that the club paid a rent of £4 2s. 6d. a week. At the time of the arrest there were about 20 persons present. He took their names, and found that none of them were in the list of members.—Mr. Newton remanded the prisoner, requiring the same bail as in the last case.

CARL RASCH IN TROUBLE.

Carl Rasch, husband of the woman who was murdered in Shaftesbury-avenue a few months ago, was the third defendant. He was charged with selling spirits, beer, and tobacco without a license.—Mr. Arthur Newton, solicitor, defended.—Insp. Towner said that he arrested prisoner that morning at the Princess Club, Winsley-street, Oxford-street. In one room was a bar and in another a piano. Rasch was near the bar. When he read the warrant Rasch said, "Yes, I know; but why was I not summoned?" He (Insp. Towner) told him that he could not answer that question.—Cross-examined: The alleged offence took place in October, but he could offer no explanation of the delay in taking proceedings.—The witness Mitchell said that he visited the club on the 30th of October with Gilliott, a German. He simply walked in and went upstairs into a room with a bar in it. They sat down and ordered brandy, beer, whisky, and cigars, and paid for them. Rasch was serving at the bar. There were about 40 or 50 persons in the room.—Cross-examined: The 6 or 7 persons who accompanied them to each of the clubs was the same man, and on each occasion he went in first.—Mr. A. Newton asked for the man's name, but Mr. Alpe objected to its being demanded, and the magistrate held that it was unnecessary.—In further cross-examination, Mitchell declared that the German told him that he was not a member of any one of the three clubs. He would not say, however, that he told him so of each club specifically. He was served, on the occasion of his last visit to the Princess Club by Rasch himself.—Elliott also gave evidence. He denied that the German was a member of the club. He did not know his name, but always addressed him as "Henri."—Mr. Llewellyn said that he saw Rasch on Dec. 2. Rasch told him that he was the manager, and produced the books of the club. There was no entry of any kind in the books. He asked Rasch for the rules, but Rasch could produce none. When Rasch was arrested he (Llewellyn) took possession of the members' book, and found that since he last saw it a few entries had been made. Not one of the names in it corresponded, however, with any name given by those who were in the club last night.—Mr. Newton, in remanding the prisoner for a week, said that he should expect Mr. Alpe to be able to give him a satisfactory explanation of the delay in taking proceedings.

ALLEGED BIGAMY.

At Chelmsford, William Ranger, alias Pont, a groom, was charged with marrying Emma Frost, at Springfield, on April 19, 1884, his former wife, to whom he was married on March 16, 1879, being then alive.—James Potter, who said he knew prisoner as William Pont, stated that the prisoner married Susan Selway at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on March 16, 1879.—Emma Frost deposed that she was in service with the prisoner at Ingatestone, where he passed under the name of Ranger. He represented himself to be a single man, and she went through a form of marriage with him at Springfield, in April, 1884. They lived together until January, 1892. A baby was born on the 17th of that month, and the prisoner left her on the 22nd. She had four children. Mrs. Selway, the mother of the prisoner's first wife, said her daughter was still alive and was present in court. She had had three children. Prisoner, when arrested, said, "I am glad you have come. I wish to have it all settled, as I mean to live a better life."—Committed for trial at the Essex Assizes.

TIDE TABLE FOR THE WEEK.

	Lndn. Bdge. morn.	Lndn. Bdge. a'trn.	Liverpool. morn.	Liverpool. aftrn.	Bristol. morn.	Bristol. aftrn.	Hull. morn.	Hull. aftrn.
S	3 3	3 19	0 16	0 33	8 24	8 40	7 23	7 54
M	3 35	3 51	0 49	1 4	8 56	9 11	8 0	8 21
T	4 6	4 22	1 20	1 35	9 27	9 41	8 37	8 52
W	4 37	4 52	1 50	2 4	9 55	10 9	9 7	9 23
T	5 7	5 22	2 19	2 35	10 24	10 39	9 38	9 54
F	5 37	5 53	2 50	3 7	10 53	11 8	10 9	10 27
St	6 11	6 29	3 24	3 43	11 24	11 41	10 45	11 8

An old soldier named Charles Thomas blew his brains out at Gravesend with a Spanish muzzle-loading rifle.

CIGARETTE PAPERS.

By JOSEPH HATTON

A Pleasant Object Lesson.

"Why, my dear sir," said a great medical authority whom I interviewed on the subject of the maligned oyster, "there is no daintier feeder beneath the sea nor above it than the oyster, and he is the most ancient and, at the same time, the most prolific probably of any marine bivalve. He is no scavenger; an environment of sewage would kill him. His digestive organs are as sensitive as our own—liver, stomach, respiratory, just as complicated. Fat and plump when well lodged and refreshed with a generous dietary, he becomes thin, discontented, livid in colour, and far less desirable than when he is in good condition. But to lay upon him the odium of spreading typhoid is to libel him and his ancestry. Has it ever occurred to you that he is the oldest thing known? I have to thank one Mr. Edward Wilson, an American writer, for reminding me that, on the shores of the most ancient oceans, where only sand is seen, to the seas which line the deserts, to the rocks which check the mightiest cataracts of the world, and you will find, millions of years old, fossil shells of the ancestors of our living oysters of to-day. I believe in ancient lineage, and I believe in oyster." And he did justice to the hospitality of Mr. Pinero, who this week gave an oyster supper to artistic, literary, and social London. Mr. Pinero is fond of "object lessons." I am not aware whether the eminent dramatist opened his hospitable doors and his delicious natives by way of demonstrating his confidence in the libelled bivalve of the season, but it is a notable fact that, in spite of the indictment of the "British Medical Journal," upwards of 200 distinguished ladies and gentlemen emphasised their faith in the purity of the British Native with a hearty unanimity.

The Verdict.

It cannot be said for oysters what the Scotchman said of whisky—"There is no bad whisky, but there is whisky that is better than other whisky." Now, there are bad oysters and good oysters. If you have a doubt about an oyster reject it. A dead oyster is an abomination. So also is tainted fish or ill-kept meat; but don't believe, on the ipse dixit of a speculative scientist, or even a clever medical journal, that because a man ate oysters shortly before he developed symptoms of typhoid fever he necessarily contracted the disease from oysters. Why not attack his milk, his porridge, his steak, his sherry, his eggs, or anything else that he took the day before? Besides, oysters cannot be bred or fed or nourished on sewage; so the verdict of our after-dinner chat, with all non-professional respect, must be against the "British Medical Journal." To the best of our means (and it is, alas! an expensive habit) we propose to go on eating oysters—always observing Sir Henry Thompson's sage advice—"bathed in their own liquor."

Master of Millions.

Bret Harte's romances of California rarely even touch the fringe of a phase of life that teems with possibilities that are dear to the modern story-teller. It is said that as a rule whenever a man has struck a bonanza in California he is at once deprived of his wife and children. They take passage in the next steamer to Paris. The millionaire is thereupon left to his own social resources, and between San Francisco and occasional visits to Washington he is a marvellous exception if he does not drift against "the rock on which almost any matrimonial venture would split." Mr. James Fair, one of four Irish-American millionaires who made their fortunes by mining and mining speculations, has recently died at the Lick House, San Francisco, leaving a fortune of 40,000,000dols. His friends are glad to find that he did not "cut off" his son Charles as he had threatened to do, and that he has left the remainder of his estate to his other two children, with the exception of an odd 100,000dols., half of which as a bequest "to any woman who can prove herself to be his wife," and the remainder "to any person other than his children named in the will." There seems to have been matrimonial trouble in Mr. Fair's life. By his will he declares he never was legally married, but to avoid claims of possible widows and their children he make the two bequests just mentioned.

The Romance of Mining.

Fair and Mackay (the genial millionaire whom to know is to admire and respect) started their mining lives together, the one as a foreman, the other as a labouring miner. The other two millionaires, Flood and O'Brien, at that time were keeping a whisky saloon in the Sierra mining camps. They were both sagacious and thrifty men, and the two miners, Fair and Mackay, were equally industrious, and both steady, determined characters. From superintendents of mines they became managers, and long before the stock-holders or the public had any idea of the wealth of the deposits in the California and Consolidated Virginia mines they had won the secret. Flood and O'Brien at this time were careful stock operators and intimate bus ness friends of Fair and Mackay. It came to pass that the share market was greatly depressed, and holders of stock in the California and Consolidated Virginia were anxious to sell. Fair, Mackay, Flood, and O'Brien bought every share they could lay their hands on. They thus came into control of the mine, and no sooner were they in possession than a bonanza was uncovered and they became enormously rich. This was the foundation of four enormous fortunes. Mr. Mackay is probably the richest of the Californian miners, and he is less envied than most wealthy men, for he is generally regarded as worthy of his inheritance. He is singularly unostentatious, and his record is full of acts of generosity and kindly remembrances of old friends. It was Mackay who gave John McCullough, the actor, his first great start in life. It was in this way. The Grand Opera House had just been built in San Francisco. One day Mackay came to him. "You seemed to think you would like the new Opera House, Jonn," said Mackay. "Oh, but," McCullough replied, "it is far beyond me." "What would it take to run it, do you think, for a season or two?" McCullough suggested some approximate figures that were very heavy. "All right," said Mackay, "I have secured the lease for you, and you can have all the money you want for management." This is the condensation of a long story that McCullough told me himself. It is not necessary to go into the details of an incident of this kind after dinner. Mackay and McCullough were close friends until the day of the actor's melancholy death.

£200 makes £200,000.

There is a fascination about mining for gold and silver that gives a halo to victory, but money is often made as suddenly on the London Stock Exchange and in speculative investments that belong to new inventions and fresh industries. The other night I met a friend at dinner whose neighbour was one of a small syndicate who had put less than £200 into the initial work of a certain new application to the lighting power of gas. From this small sum his holding in the company had risen to the value of £200,000. Not long since a Londoner went to his broker with £100. "I can spare it," he said. "It is a small sum; put it into something for me, and I'll lock it up." The broker had on his hands a large number of certain gas shares, for which he had paid 3s. 9d. per share. He sold the client 100 at 4s. 6d., content to be relieved of them at a small profit. Some six or nine months, or it may be more, elapsed. The Londoner had been travelling in India. On his return he went up into the city to see his brokers on a matter of business wholly unconnected with the aforesaid sharer "By the way," said the man of business, "what did you do with your gas shares?" "Oh, nothing," said the Londoner, expecting to hear that they were worthless. "I just locked them up. Are they any good?" "Well," said the broker, "we can sell what you gave us 4s. 6d. for for £39." "No!" exclaimed the Londoner, with his locked-up scrip, "by Jove! Then sell them." "We would not advise your selling all of them; let us deal with 20." And while he smoked a cigarette the broker went out and sold for £580 the scrip that had stood him in a £10 note. A year or two ago a certain landscape painter, whom I may call a friend of mine, received a message from a compatriot in South Africa urging him to go into the City and buy every share he could get in a certain African enterprise. The mine had fallen in, and it was reported that there were little hopes of working it again. The shares went down to comparatively nothing. The artist in town had full confidence in his engineering correspondent, and went into the City and did as he was bidden. Within a comparatively few months he was the richer on this transaction by £30,000. I hope these financial revelations will not tempt any of my friends to turn from the ordinary course of their lives and look for easy fortunes in some other direction. For one of these sudden fortunes there are a hundred sudden collapses. The princely incomes of Pinero, Jones, and Gilbert have led many a scribbler into Queer-street, but the romances of the Stock Exchange and the mining camps of America and Australia have turned many an otherwise prosperous career into misery, madness, and untimely death. Prenez garde, messieurs.

A Vision of Death.

In these days of slovenly illustrations the pictures in Mr. Wood's charming memoir of his mother are an artistic delight. By the way, Mary Howitt told Mrs. Wood a remarkable experience. One day while she was writing everything around her seemed to fade, and presently she was in the midst of a wild country such as she had never visited. She knew, however that she was in Australia. In the midst of the barren scene was a large pool from which a number of men with anxious faces were dragging a body. As they turned towards her the light fell up n its face and she saw that it was the body of her son. She watched them carry it across the plain; and then the vision faded. Straightway she related to her husband what she had seen. They came to the conclusion that it boded disaster to their son. The sad news came at length reporting his death by drowning, and the vision which had appeared to Mrs. Howitt turned out to be truthful in every detail. Verily there is more in heaven and earth, Horatio, than is dreamt of in your philosophy.

Who Stopped the Train?

I came across an incident the other day related in an American journal with dates and names and in every way seemingly well authenticated. An old lady called away on a mission of life and death arrived at the railway station just as her train was leaving on its long journey. It was of the last importance that she should not be left behind. As it passed out of the depôt one of the guards shouted from the platform of the rear car, "Mrs. Soand-So, the train shall pull up for you." Within a minute or two it stood still, and the old lady, with the assistance of the station-master, went along the track and took her seat. After awhile she asked for the guard who had been so kind to her, and mentioned him by name. "Why, madame, he's been dead this two year," said the chief brakesman. "Then, who stopped the train?" Nobody knew. The signal had been given to the engine-driver, but no one could be found who had been responsible for the extraordinary pulling up of the western express.

A Comedy on Wheels.

This reminds me of an incident of Irving's first American tour. During the journey from Boston to Baltimore a member of the company of an unusually inquiring turn of mind pulled the check string "to see what the thing was." The train stopped, and there was great consternation among the guards and passengers. The speculative inquirer into mechanical appliances made frank confession, and after a few pardonable oaths on the part of the chief conductor the train went on again. The monotony of the remainder of the journey was relieved by an elaborate practical joke organised with quiet humour by our leading actor. An official was introduced into the conspiracy and the delinquent was formally fined 100dols. Irving explained to him the enormity of his offence in the eye of the American law. The delinquent after relieving his mind of a protest against the tyranny of the Republic, paid 20dols. on account, and a subscription was started to defray the balance of the fine. "I do not regret what has transpired," said the offender an hour or two later; "indeed, I am glad of it; it only shows how well I stand with my colleagues, who have generously subscribed 80dols.; it is quite touching the way they have stood by me with their purses and their friendly words." Alas for the cherished sentiment! Most of the subscribers were in the plot; one of them, not hitherto known as over generous, fairly astounding the delinquent by nobly heading the list with 20dols. At Baltimore imaginary despatches passed between Mr. Abbey, the impresario of the company, and the railway authorities, with the result that in the most handsome way the directors remitted the fine. While they could not too highly reprehend the mischievous stopping of the cars, they felt assured that Mr. X—had no wicked design in obstructing the proper working of the train. The victim thereupon wrote a letter of thanks to Mr. Abbey, had quite a pathetic interview with Mr. Irving on the happy termination of what might have been a very serious business, and insisted upon spending some of his 20dols. in champagne for the subscribers to the fund, on which act of grace he made so eloquent and cordial speech that everybody shook hands with him and said he was a "jolly fellow, which nobody can deny." Irving laid an injunction upon the company to keep the secret and let their friend remain happily convinced of their genuine intervention, but somehow the story leaked out before the tour was over, and that is why I have felt no bar to this little comedy record. Many a good farce has been constructed on less promising materials.

THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE.")

GOOD POTATOES.

Soil has more influence upon the quality of potatoes than in the case of most other culinary plants. On close, heavy soils, in damp seasons especially, the quality is frequently inferior. To some extent this can be modified by cultivation, and those having heavy land to deal with should trench it deeply, and let the frost and the drying winds, when they come, into it. A dressing of lime will be beneficial, tending to cleanse it from insects and the spores of the fungus which last season, in some districts, destroyed a good part of the crop. Potatoes, where the soil is heavy, should not be nearer than 30ft. This will give space enough to draw the earth up into sharp ridges and ensure the free drainage for the soil enclosing the potatoes. Late potatoes are generally planted too late, especially on heavy land. The middle of March is quite late enough for planting. This will give time for the tubers to get full grown before the disease does much damage, and there will be less danger of the tubers growing out in the form of a dry season followed by heavy autumn rains, as the crop can be lifted earlier. Potatoes are gross feeders, but, though early crops may be manured heavily with advantage, it is not wise to be too liberal to the late potatoes planted after March. Wood ashes and charred rubbish, being rich in potash, may be used with advantage for potatoes; they should be placed in the drills with the sets. If the land requires more help, add 5cwt. per acre of superphosphate, either bone or mineral.

VARIETIES OF POTATOES.

So far as regards quality white potatoes are generally better than coloured ones, and I should recommend a preponderance of white varieties to be planted, especially where the soil is heavy and retentive. For the early border plant a few of the Old Ashleaf, which, when true, is still unbeaten for first earlies. Myatt's Prolific is also a good variety to follow in succession. Next, Beauty of Hebron, of which there is also a white variety, is very good in favourable seasons, i.e., not too wet. Early Puritan is a sport or selection from Beauty of Hebron. Snowdrop is an excellent potato, good for exhibition and also for the table. Among rounds, Windsor Castle is a very handsome kind, and of good quality, but it has a master has quality, though I have seen it much diseased in damp soils. Sutton's Early Regent is a good kind. Satisfaction and White Elephant are also good; the latter is a heavy cropper, but, like most of the American varieties, is out in dry season. For late use, Imperator and Magnum Bonum are a good deal grown, and Reading Hero and Reading Russet are good in suitable soils. But no matter how good a variety potato may be, there comes a time when it must be discarded for something better. Nobody grows the Champion now who knows what good potatoes are; and, in looking back 20 or 30 years, the sorts we grew then have most of them disappeared.

ONION—ROUSHAM PARK HERO.

This is one of the best for exhibition. It produces large, handsome bulbs with thin necks, and as a rule the best of everything is the cheapest in the long run. It is true we have to pay a little more for the seeds of the selected varieties, but it does not add more than a few pence to the cost of the stock of seeds, as very few small gardeners sow more than one or two ounces of onion seeds, and I always act on the principle of rejecting the cheap seeds because it is a waste of time and land to sow rubbish because it happens to be cheap. Another good onion which I can recommend is Magnum Bonum, a good selection of the Brown Globe. Let the land be in good condition, and sow last week in February, if the season is suitable, or if not, then as early in March as possible. Sow thinly, whether it be in drills or broadcast, in four-feet beds. I always sow in drills, because [illegible] cleaning and earth stirring when this latter is an advantage to gr[illegible]

EDGING TO GARDEN [illegible]

Where there is any pretension there must be something to separ[illegible] from the gravel. Box is neat w[illegible] good order, but it harbours slug[illegible] and is apt to die off and bec[illegible] Staffordshire tiles are lasting, and [illegible] put them down, and they [illegible] neat. Cheaper lines can be obtained [illegible] makers, but they will not stand th[illegible] well, and when they begin to crumb[illegible] effect is unsightly. For edgings to [illegible] double daisies, thrift, and several species of saxifrage are often used. Then, for the vegetable garden, parsley, thyme, and strawberries make useful edging plants.

WINDOW GARDENING.

Now that the frost has for the time being disappeared, let the plants have all the light possible, and if very dry give a good watering. They will then go for a week, or in some cases longer before requiring more; sponge the leaves.

ADAM.

AUSTRALIA'S BURNING MOUNTAIN.

One of the most remarkable sights in Australia is a burning mountain at Wingen, New South Wales, 236 miles from Sydney. It is 1,820 feet high, and is supposed to be a large coal seam which has in some unaccountable way became ignited, and has been burning for many years. The course of the fire can be traced a considerable distance by the numerous depressions or chasms caused by the falling in of the ground from beneath which the coal has been consumed. Smoke is continually issuing from the sides of the mountain.

The water in the Straits of Gibraltar is 150 fathoms deep.

The army and navy of the Argentine Confederation are kept up at an annual cost of £2,600,000.

Actors were so much admired by the late Dr. Morell Mackenzie that he never charged them for medical advice.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[Questions requiring to be answered the same week must reach the office by Tuesday morning. We do not give opinions on legal documents, nor can we undertake to solve knotty problems. Letters should be marked outside "Legal," "Household," "Miscellaneous," or otherwise, to facilitate classification. The coupon given below must be forwarded for each question with name and address of the contributor in full, unless it is for publication when a nom de plume is appended. Neither addresses nor communications are ever given. All rejected MSS. unaccompanied by stamped addressed covers will be destroyed. Letters which do not strictly comply with the above conditions will remain unnoticed.]

CORRESPONDENCE COUPON.
Jan. 27, '95. The People. No. 604
This must be cut out and forwarded with any question.

LOST AND FOUND.

[1. Notices to contain the following particulars only. Name of missing person. How long since last heard of. Relationship to applicant. Signature and address of applicant (not for publication). 2. Must have been missing for over one year at least. 3. Notice must come direct from relations. 4. Repetition will not be given. Notices which do not comply with these rules can only be inserted in the "Personal" advertising column at the usual charge.]

PATENTS.

[Do we have to reply for detailed information respecting the taking out of patents or collateral matters, we forward all such communications to a professional agent, who supplies the information free of charge to inquirers. The envelope should be inscribed "Patent" on the address side.]

MEDICAL ADVICE.

[A physician, whose qualifications for the work are of the highest, answers ordinary questions of a medical nature. In ordinary cases the reply is given without charge under the heading "Medical" in these columns, but when written prescriptions are necessary the applicant must send stamped addressed envelope and a shilling postal order. This course must also be adopted whenever the question is of such a delicate nature as to be unfit to be dealt with publicly. The word "Medical" should appear outside.]

LEGAL.

MOSA.—It rests with the licensing authority to say what should be done.

REX.—We do not calculate the value of reversions. Employ an actuary.

M. A. D.—1. We have no knowledge of the alleged fund. 2. Take them to a dealer.

FIXTURES.—If incorporated with the structure they must not be removed. Neither the landlord nor the next tenant can be compelled to buy them, supposing they are your property.

TEILL.—No; death or divorce are the only legal means.

G. G.—They can distrain, in spite of the bill of sale.

SUNRISE.—If she cannot perform her part of the contract, it is at an end.

MOTHER ANN.—The question being of an entirely novel character, we submitted it to counsel. No authority can be found to determine the point, one way or the other, but our adviser believes that such a marriage would be held illegal, on the ground of affinity. See "General Chatter."

TROUBLE.—If you pay your rent to the agent, sue him; it is clearly a case for compensation.

YOUNG PUBLICAN.—You have to declare on the net, not the gross income.

J. T.—He had better begin to pay, or the court may come down upon him heavily.

H. B.—By suing for the damage.

DEVON.—He can bequeath his share just as he pleases.

JACOB.—We cannot give you any advice.

H. C.—He could be compelled to either take her back or provide a separate maintenance.

SPIFFKINS. No claim.

ADA VERONE.—No.

G. E. D.—It must be done in the name of the minor's guardian.

GOFF.—Your "good authority" must have been misinformed; there never was such a law; it would have made an innocent person the scapegoat of a murderer.

DISAPPOINTED.—Everything depends upon what the arrangement between you was.

J. NILSON.—The only way would be to prosecute for perjury; but that would be a very dangerous proceeding, and might recoil heavily on yourself.

W. BROOKS.—The will is probably in the custody of the family lawyer. Try at Somerset House.

DAISY.—Not the slightest use.

ANNATTO.—Look in "Whitaker's Almanack."

H. TILL.—You should have obtained permission before building.

W. GORDON.—You must continue to exercise patience.

W. H. S.—Yes.

L. CARTER.—There might be considerable difficulty.

SAILOR.—No newspaper would take up the case; that is not a function of British journalism.

JUSTICE.—Neither; it should be handed over to the police.

J. J.—Sue.

H. A.—She takes half; the rest goes to the nephews and nieces.

G. D.—You could hardly carry through such a difficult case without legal help.

G. C. K.—The landlord could get rid of him by ejectment process.

TENANT.—The same conditions exist as before the sale.

P. T., OX.—Fees must be paid all the same.

M. P. B.—A good claim.

JAR.—She could still apply for an affiliation order and would probably do so if you ceased payments.

F. W.—It would be safer to have a fresh one made out.

J. H. O.—At the place where the debt was incurred.

CLARET.—Everything appears to have been done in accordance with the law.

S.—The collector is right.

AGREEMENT.—On a quarter day.

J. GATES.—Three months.

ALSTON.—Holds good.

J. B.—There is no redress.

A. OLIVER.—The members collectively should take proceedings.

ALIAS STEPHEN.—Opinions are never given on legal documents. Consult a solicitor.

L. W. R.—You had better try to come to terms; otherwise you will be sold up and made a bankrupt.

MORELLE.—No chance.

SOUTHERSEY.—If her husband is alive she is, of course, debarred from taking another.

EXECTURO.—Taking out probate will suffice.

DAY DAWN.—Take counsel's opinion on the will; it is an intricate affair.

MYRTUS.—Try to come to terms.

E. F. T.—Please write more explicitly, and state exactly what you want to know.

L. W, W.—See reply to "Alias Stephen."

COSTERMONGER.—He would probably deny that there was any such agreement, and if he did you would lose the case.

PAUL.—Within three months, if you mean taking out probate.

R. H.—No; the warehousing was at your own risk.

EYE WITNESS.—Either.

E. J.—You must endeavour to find him.

S. W.—See reply to "Alias Stephen."

T. H. S.—She should give her last name.

FEELING.—Depends on the terms of the separation order.

MARGARET.—There might be some difficulty. Your husband could [illegible] claim a farthing.

E. L. [illegible] again that if the box is not [illegible] given date it will be sold to [illegible]

PALL[illegible] certain at Somerset House.

R. A. [illegible] not have moved in. As you [illegible] le for the rent.

ALON[illegible]

EXQU[illegible]

F. D. [illegible] affiliation order was obtained [illegible]

ONE [illegible] to the executor.

C. S. [illegible] o have a good claim.

LEGAL [illegible], but he might recover fr[illegible]

A. B. [illegible] derstand the case.

INQUI[illegible] Somerset House.

CARRI[illegible] oceed in ejectment.

OLD S[illegible]IBER.—No claim.

C. L.—We do not deliver opinions on insurance offices.

WILL.—It would be most unsafe to venture any opinion without seeing the will.

H. G.—The estate is liable for all debts.

MACD.—They could not touch anything bequeathed to you.

G. H.—Not unless there was an agreement.

VILPARTY.—Yes.

S. LANGLEY.—Yes.

MALPEDDER.—You must defend, either in person or by deputy, or the case will be given against you.

H. W. J.—Your best course would be to employ a lawyer to claim your share.

HINGLE.—It becomes a new tenancy from the time the rent was raised. We doubt whether you have a good case.

L. SILL.—The only course is to pay the claim; until that is done you must remain in suspense.

OFF HAND UP.—Opinions are never given on wills and other legal documents.

ORRIN.—The firm must pay on its net income.

IBEY.—Game.

PUBLIC.—By the exercise of intelligence.

ERNEN.—Cannot be estimated.

K.—Can be recovered by filling in a form which may be obtained from the collector.

F. R. NORTON.—We are not aware of any such section. Distraint cannot be made until rent is actually due.

ANXIOUS.—You cannot claim travelling expenses. There was no agreement to pay them.

BANTING.—No further probate duty appears to be payable.

J. A.—Administration would have to be taken out to the wife's estate. The administrator or executor could deal with the policy.

MEDICAL.

ANXIOUS.—Wash the head once in 10 days with sublimate soap and warm water, dry well, and daily apply some of this ointment: Hydrarg oxidi rubri, 15 grains; creasoti, 10 drops; olei amygdal dulc, 2 drachms; lanolin, 6 drachms.

A. E. C.—Massage by one who understands how to do it will help you.

A. RENVES.—The continuous current of electricity properly applied to the auditory region daily may help you.

PATRICK MCGUINNESS.—1. We never give addresses through the paper. 2. Any surgical instrument maker.

STROUD GREEN.—Avoid all highly seasoned foods, stimulants, and tobacco. Take 1 ounce of the mixture after each meal: Sodii bicarb, 2 drachms; sp ammon co, 3 drachms; inf rhei, 6 ounces; inf columbæ, to 12 ounces. Eat your food slowly and masticate it well.

JIM A. W.—Use dumb bells each morning for 10 minutes. Exercise more self control, and take 1 teaspoonful of the syr ferri hypophos at each meal; repeat twice a day after food.

A. H. W.—You were written to on Jan. 21. If you have not received the letter let us know.

E. THOMAS.—A mixture of both, in equal parts. One teaspoonful twice a day after food.

DEBILITE.—1. You should wear instruments made especially for your complaint. 2. They can be had at any surgical instrument makers.

A CAB DRIVER. — Eat your food slowly, masticate it well, and take 1 ounce of this mixture after each meal: Sodii sulph, ½ ounce; bisamthi carb, mag carb, of each 2 drachms; sp ammon co, 4 drachms; inf rhei, ½ aq menth pip, of each equal parts to 12 ounces. Avoid all stimulants, and tobacco.

G. S.—Use through an eye bath some of this solution 3 or 4 times a day: Acid boracic, 2 drachms; aq rosæ to 12 ounces.

M. J. ROSS.—You must get a well-fitting umbilical truss, and let the baby constantly wear it.

ERNEST.—You have evidently obstruction in the nasal passage, the nature and extent of which can only be determined by a careful examination.

W. BROWN.—We are much obliged to you for your letter, and glad to know you have received so much benefit from the treatment recommended by us.

H. P.—1. The only course is to have them cured by operation before leaving. 2. It is not a dangerous one.

CLOVELLY.—If you take it too long or in too large doses it will produce dyspepsia.

B. A. D.—Observe the directions, and take medicine as for "A Cab Driver."

ALMSHOUSES.—Rub the joints well night and morning with belladonna camph co.

BUNION.—Paint around each a broad ring of Unna's glycerine jelly with a stiff brush. When the jelly has firmly set fill in the interior of the ring with a circular piece of the strongest salicylic acid plaster. Cover the whole with two layers of the jelly, and, when quite dry, over all put a small pad of cotton wool. This dressing will last for a week, and should be renewed from time to time until the thickened epidermis has been entirely removed.

A WORKING MAN.—1. The charge is quite a correct and reasonable one. The exercise of their skill probably saved your wife's life. 2. Results, not time, must be considered.

BRITISH.—Observe the directions and take the medicine as for "A Cab Driver."

A. P.—You require to be carefully examined if there is displacement, it must be rectified and an instrument worn.

MALE.—Exercise more self control; take a cold bath each morning on rising, rubbing yourself into a good glow with a clean rough towel.

MISS WILLS.—1. Apply daily to the spots, only taking great care not to touch the eyes or eyelids, some of this ointment: Ungt pot iodidi. 2. As for "Bunion."

W. MORLEY.—1. Take 1 teaspoonful of this mixture when the cough is troublesome: Tinct camph co, 4 drachms; tinct scillæ, 2 drachms; oxymel scillæ, 1 ounce; glycerini to 3 ounces. 2. Take 1 drachm in 2 ounces of water twice a day after food of Easton's syrup.

FRED.—Avoid all stimulants and tobacco; take one teaspoonful of this mixture twice a day after food: Syr ferri hypophos et olei morrhuæ, of each equal parts.

A. S.—Dress her in flannel, give her a good varied diet of the best quality, and half a teaspoonful of the mixture as for "Fred."

CYNROGUTLLS.—1. Depends entirely upon the extent of the disease and age of person afflicted. 2. Strict regime to the appropriate form of diet will do much.

A POOR CLERK.—Take one teaspoonful of the syrupus ferri hypophosphat in 1 ounce of water twice a day after meals.

TIM.—Take ½ ounce of this medicine three times a day: Potass bicarb, 20 drachms; pulv acid citric, 14 drachms; water, 2 ounces. On mixing, let the solution freely effervesce before corking.

S. A. SHAW.—1. We thank you for your letter, and are glad to know that you received so much benefit from the treatment we recommended to you. 2. You will be written to.

W. BOWLER.—Let her avoid all stimulants, dre a in flannel, and take 1 ounce of this medicine after each meal: Sp ammon co, 2 drachms; sodii bicarb, 1 drachm; tinct cinch co, 2 drachms; aq menth pip to 10 ounces.

SUNLIGHT.—Take 1 ounce of this medicine after each meal: Potass cit, 4 drachms; potassi bicarb, 2 drachms; tinct hyoscyami, 2 drachms; sodii sulph, 1 ounce; inf buchu to 16 ounces.

H. W. A.—Give them respectively, according to age, 1 drachm and ½ a drachm of this medicine twice a day, after food: Syr ferri iodi et olei morrhuæ, of each equal parts.

MATER.—Requires a careful examination before any advice can be given.

T. H. C.—Observe directions, and take medicine as for "A Cab Driver."

GYPPSO.—Wash the head twice a week with the sublimate soap and warm water, dry well, cut the hair close to the scalp with a pair of sharp scissors, and keep it so; rub into and around the spots only some of this ointment twice a day: Acid chrysophanic, 1 drachm; hydrarg ammon chlor, 20 grains; lanolin, 1 drachm; adips benzoat, 6 drachms; hq carbonis detergens, ½ a drachm. Give him 1 teaspoonful of the medicine as for "H. W. A." twice a day.

A SUFFERER.—You must continue to use instrument. Take 1 ounce of this mixture 3 times a day in 2 ounces of water: Pulv acid boracic, 1 drachm; inf alchemillæ arvensis. Let us know the result of this treatment in 10 days.

VICTOR WILD.—Not without an examination.

G. L.—1. Requires prolonged surgical treatment. 2. Try one of the large metropolitan hospitals.

CANTARIAN.—Wear well-fitting boots with wide soles, broad toes, and low broad heels. Soak the feet each night in hot water and strap the toe to the inner line of the foot by plaster. Rub into the enlarged joints some of the ungt iodi each morning.

TIP.—1 The only cure is by operation. 2. Certainly not in your present condition. 3. Walking.

D. E. F.—Take a generous, plain, but unstimulating diet, one in which boiled onions enter largely. Take one of these pills twice a day: Calcii sulphidi, 1-10 grain; also one or two compound sulphur lozenges night and morning as an aperient, as may be necessary.

A. L. L.—Take 1 ounce of this medicine in a tumblerful of hot water each morning on rising: Mag sulph, 2 ounces; mag carb, 2 drachms; potass bicarb, 3 drachms; sp ammon co, 4 drachms; aq menth pip to 8 ounces. Rub the part well night and morning with the liniment potassi iodidi.

W. A. JOHNSON.—You must apply to a dentist.

INST.—Take 1 ounce of this mixture after each meal: Sodii sulph, 1 ounce; sodii bicarb, 2 drachms; sp ammon co, 4 drachms; inf rhei, 6 ounces; aqua menth pip, to 16 ounces. See that your diet is a good plain one, free from starchy food, and saturate the holes with ammoniacal solution. Bore the holes in a downward direction.

T. H. C.—We do not give addresses. Eckford's sweet peas may be obtained from any seedsman.

LAURENWILL.—If the land is poor give a dressing of manure and dig it over. Let it lie till March, then rake smooth, and sow the grass seeds rather thickly.

BOB.—Name of plant: Sedum Sieboldii.

FINANCIAL.

NEMO.—We never sit in judgment on insurance offices, having no means to gauge the soundness of their investments.

A. B.—No claim.

MELITA.—It is a most risky investment; we must leave you to exercise your own judgment, as you did when you made the purchase.

W. H. WIGRAM.—1. Anything but safe; leave them alone. 2. A very doubtful source of information.

LOUISBAY.—Perhaps Chilian bonds would be as good as anything.

E. [illegible]RRINE.—A sound investment. No security is "perfectly safe."

AWAITING.—Such calculations do not come within the scope of this column.

W. WOODS.—You must exercise your own judgment as you did when the purchase was made. It would be absurd to attempt to predict the future of the property.

A. A. M.—It is a "bucket shop," and lies, therefore, outside public cognizance.

INSURER.—All we can say is that it bears a fair reputation.

J. A. P.—Decidedly risky.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. GREY.—Such recommendations are never given, nor are replies returned by post.

G. WISE.—If it was only the rain that produced the spots they will disappear.

TRACEY.—If stamped with ink, erasure would be very difficult.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.—We have no knowledge of any institution suited to your requirements.

ANTHOW.—There are many.

DEPILATORIES.—Consult your chemist.

J. BELL.—The answer is perfectly correct, vide "Whitaker's Almanack" for 1895. Your computation must include other charges, such as local loans stock.

CONSTANT READER (Bath).—Don't send a farthing; the concern is undergoing judicial investigation.

MAGISTER. — During the lifetime of the author, or for 42 years.

JAMES HOLROYD.—Declined with thanks. We await receipt of stamped addressed cover for return. See rules.

PIPES PAR.—I cannot say.

R. PEARS.—It is not a coin, but a token.

MUGBY JUNCTION.—We do not catch your meaning.

RITHERDEN.—We cannot find any trace of the case.

A. DAVIS.—Not recorded.

THE TRADE READER.—You can use for recovery if you think it worth while.

ANXIOUS FATHER.—There are training ships at all the chief ports. Make inquiry among them.

N. E. D.—Too trivial an event to be placed on permanent record.

H. W. F.—Each society of the sort has its own rules for admission. Make application to whichever you prefer.

PAWNBROKER.—He has no right to do so.

H. M. BEACH.—Some merit, but not up to our mark. There is no reason why you should not improve.

TOTHER.—Overhaul a bookseller's stock.

LONDON RIFLE.—We cannot account for the delay, except by surmising that the medals were not ready for issue.

W. L. UNSTEAD.—You probably allude to the Guarantee Society.

HOME.—Not known.

ELPORP.—Your best chance would be to search the "London Directory."

DARRIE.—It is not possible for us to say where an entirely unknown couple were married.

R. RICHARDSON.—Distances are never computed. You had better get a map and measure by scale.

G. M. S.—Write to the chief constable of the county.

A. H. CHILD.—He can make his own choice between attending a course and studying at home.

LONG-WAITING TOBY.—You must continue to practise patience.

B. B. E.—It does not matter one way or the other.

B. S.—No.

X. Y. Z.—There are none, so far as we know.

PICAYO.—Yes.

C. LEIGH.—We have no further information than was given in the report. Against rule to reply by post.

H. FORSTER.—Yes; on affirmation.

R. F. CORFOREL.—In the Madras Presidency. One question, one coupon.

S. CARLTON.—The old 73rd is linked to the old 42nd ("Black Watch,") as "Royal Highlanders." Both battalions wear the kilt.

JESSIE B.—It could not be done.

W. W. W.—Restoring an oil painting is far too difficult and delicate an operation to be taught in two or three lines.

VERD.—It is the name of a curious woolly plant, which grows in the Alps and bears a white flower.

LOST AND FOUND.

See notices at head of correspondence columns.

MISSING.

James Pickett. Left London for North America 40 years ago. Brother.

Peter Maabe Mogri. Last seen on leaving Islington Infirmary. Brother.

Sarah Snelling, maiden name Bevan, at Bristol 25 years ago. Brother.

Walter J. Williams, at Sydney, Australia, in November, 1885, having gone there in the John Elder. Mother.

Edward Hughes, went to Australia 15 years ago. Sister Jane.

Joseph Alexander Douglas. At Windsor, Ontario, in 1869. Brother George.

John Henley, in Canada 16 years ago. Sister Margaret.

James Walton left Peckham in May, 1873. Brother and sister.

Eliza Careless, went to New Zealand 10 years ago. Sister Emily.

James Benford, in Victoria, New Zealand, in 1891. Nephew.

Alice Dearne, at Beron, South Africa, 6 years ago. Brother Alfred.

Frederick Hislop, in Transvaal, South Africa, 2 years ago. Mother.

James Lucas, 40 years ago in Mexico. Niece.

William Stull, at Deptford in 1884. Sister.

Mary Le Lachene, ten years ago in Queensland, Australia; previously at Guernsey. Sister.

Ernest Edward Helsdown, left London, November 1893. Sister Elsie.

Isaac Alexander Smith, left England 20 years ago for America. Daughter Eliza.

George Breithampt, at Madras 12 years ago. Cousin Alice Helen.

William Rossiter, at Blairville, Co. Indiana, Pennsylvania, in 1872. Sister Sarah.

Jane Ashton, went to Australia 31 years ago. Daughter Elizabeth.

Wallace William Robert Wingrove, last heard of 7 years ago. Wife.

FOUND.

Mrs. Bushby, c.o. Mr. Plumerage, Pleasant Place, Angel-lane, Hayes, Middlesex, believes she is the "Nancy Dowsett" inquired for some time back, that being her maiden name.

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

THE CONVICT SHIP.

By W. CLARK RUSSELL.

CHAPTER X.

SHE ATTENDS HER SWEETHEART'S TRIAL.

Down to the date of the trial, suspense and expectation lay in so crushing a burden upon me that life was hardly supportable. In this time I ceased to wonder that people had the courage to perish by their own hands. Twice after that first visit I saw Tom in Newgate, but these interviews were restricted by the rules of the place to a quarter of an hour, and always the bell sounded and the rude voice of the warder broke in at the moment when I had most to say and most to hearken to.

The trial of my sweetheart took place at the Central Criminal Court on April 17. The judge was the stony-hearted Maule; memory may deceive me, but I am almost sure it was Mr. Justice Maule. For Tom's defence my uncle had secured the services of the celebrated Mr. Sergeant Shee, with whom were Mr. Doane and Mr. C. Jones. I drove down to the Old Bailey with my aunt early in the morning. The court was not inconveniently crowded. It was one of those cases which do not excite much attention. A Cashman or a Bishop would have blocked the court with eager spectators of both sexes, but the perils and crimes of the ocean do not appeal to the land-going public.

The judge took his seat at 10 o'clock, and Tom was brought in and placed at the bar, charged by indictment that "he endeavoured, feloniously and maliciously, to cast away and destroy a certain vessel called the Arab Chief, on the high seas, within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, and also of the Central Criminal Court, with intent to prejudice divers persons as part owners of or underwriters to the same vessel." He pleaded "Not Guilty." He spoke very low, but his tones were steady. He looked ill, haggard, and wasted. A great number of persons who were to appear as witnesses were in court, and I searched the many faces with burning eyes for the two wretches who had brought my sweetheart and me to this horrible pass. But my aunt did not know them, and there was no one at hand to tell me which among those men were Rotch and Nodder.

The case against Tom, as stated at the opening by the prosecution, was merely an elaborate version of the brief narrative of the facts which he had himself related to me in Newgate. Though nobody had been defrauded, since the ship had not been sunk and no money claimed or paid, yet as much emphasis was laid by the prosecution upon the number of offices in which Tom had insured as though my sweetheart's guilt were beyond question; as though the prosecution, indeed, had seen him make holes in the ship and sink her, and as though he had then arrived in England and received three or four thousand pounds in excess of the worth of the property.

The person who addressed the court for the prosecution had a very clear musical voice; he had handsome eyes, and would pause at every pointed passage of his opening with an eloquent, appealing, concerned look at the jury. His sweet, persuasive tones and looks doubled to my fear the horrible significance of his statements; and I abhorred him while I watched and listened, and could have killed him in my concealed fright and rage for his cool, and coaxing, and polished utterance of what I knew to be hellish lies. Often would I watch the jury with a devouring gaze. They were in two rows—six in a row—in a box, and one or another who was above would sometimes lean over and whisper; and one would take a note, and one would sit, for ten minutes at a time, motionless, with his eyes upon the person speaking. The counsel and gentlemen in wigs and gowns sat around a big table loaded with books and papers; a crowd of people hung about outside the sort of well formed by this table and its circular benches and backs, and whispered, and stared, and grinned, and took snuff. The judge sat stern and heavily wigged at one of several boxes not far from the jury. Sometimes he took notes; sometimes his chin sank upon his breast. He seemed to see nothing; and if ever he spoke, he appeared to address a vision in mid air.

I'll not trouble you with the particulars of this trial; I am passing rapidly now into another scene of life. One witness after another stepped into the box to prove the several insurances which had been effected by Tom; others to testify to the value of the Arab Chief and her lading. The name of Samuel Rotch was then pronounced and the man came out of a group of people and briskly ascended to give evidence. The hot blood stung in my cheeks when I saw him. My heart beat as though I was stricken with fever. Tom looked at him and kept his eyes upon him all the while that the wretch was answering questions and giving his evidence, but I never once observed that he even so much as glanced at my sweetheart.

I had expected, nay, indeed, I had prayed to behold an ill-looking villain and I believe it told heavily against us that he was an exceedingly good-looking man. His features were regular, his eyes of dark blue, bright and steadfast in their gaze, his white and regular teeth shone like light when he parted his lips; he was coloured by the sun to the manly complexion of the seaman, and he was about Tom's height, well built, but without my sweetheart's fine upright, commanding carriage. His voice had a frank note. His replies were quickly delivered and there was not the least stammer or hesitation in his statements. Added to all this he spoke with an educated accent.

He told his story plainly and was not to be shaken. He gave a reason for his going into the lazarette, which my sweetheart's counsel seemed unable to challenge. It was shown through his evidence that the size of the holes (an inch and a quarter) which were found plugged in the inner skin, exactly corresponded with the diameter of the trenail auger which had been discovered in Tom's cabin. His evidence was that while in the lazarette he had heard the sound of water running into the ship betwixt the lining and the side; he took his lantern to the place of the noise and saw the plugged holes. He went on deck and called to Benjamin Nodder, who acted as second mate and carpenter; he likewise summoned others of the crew and they all went into the lazarette and saw the plugged holes and heard the water coming in. Then, to preserve their lives and save the ship from sinking, they ripped up the plank and plugged the outer holes, thus stopping the leaks, and afterwards repaired in a body to the captain's cabin. Captain Butler threatened to shoot the witness. He was secured, the cabin searched, and the auger found. They proceeded to Rio, and on their arrival Rotch called upon the British consul, who, on the evidence sworn before him, thought proper to give the charge of the ship to a new captain, and send home the prisoner, together with Rotch, Nodder, and two of the seamen who had descended into the lazarette.

The witness was asked why he suspected the captain of attempting to scuttle the ship instead of any other of the crew?

He answered, "Because he had seen the captain go into the lazarette."

"Was it unusual for a captain to enter the lazarette of his own vessel?"

"No captain," the fellow answered, "would think of entering a lazarette."

"What other grounds for suspicion had he?"

The man replied "The captain had told him that his share in the ship, together with his venture in the cargo and freight, were heavily insured; also on one occasion the captain had talked to him about a ship whose master had been sentenced and executed for casting her away, and the captain had added significantly, 'that it was a good job the law had been changed, and that a man might now venture for a fortune without jeopardising his life.'"

Tom steadfastly regarded Rotch while he gave his evidence, and I knew by the look in my sweetheart's face that the villain in the witness-box fiendishly lied in every syllable he uttered.

Many questions in cross-examination were asked, and all of them Rotch answered steadily, bowing respectfully whenever the judge put a question, and he always looked very straight, with a fine air of candour and honesty, at the person who interrogated him. He was asked if he had not quarrelled with Captain Butler at Valparaiso; he answered yes. The particulars of that quarrel were dramatically related by Sergeant Shee; Rotch said that every word was true, but that Captain Butler and he had long ago shaken hands over that affair and dismissed it from their memory. He was asked if the prisoner had not reported him on one occasion for insubordination and neglect of duty, and if he had not been dismissed in consequence, though subsequently another berth had been procured for him by the prisoner? He answered yes, it was quite true. He was asked if it was the fact that one of the owners of the Arab Chief had promised him the berth of captain of that ship in any case, since whether guilty or innocent Captain Butler would not after this accusation be again employed? He replied it was true; but then the other side qualified what was to me a damning admission by saying that the fellow was distantly connected with the owner aforesaid.

The next witness was Benjamin Nodder. This fellow was a rough seaman of a commonplace type, hunched about the shoulders and bandy-legged, with red hair falling about his ears in coarse raw streaks, like slices of carrot; he was wall-eyed, that is, one eye looked away when the other gazed straight. His voice was harsh as the noise of an axe sharpened on a grindstone, and when he stood up in the box he leered unsteadily about him with an effort to stand with dignity, as though he was tipsy. His examination was little more than a repetition of what had been gone through with Rotch.

He was followed by two seamen who had no further evidence to give than that they had helped to stop the leaks, and had seen the captain draw a pistol upon Rotch in his cabin; they also testified to the discovery of the auger, one of them saying that he recollected Mr. Nodder telling the men that Captain Butler had come forward and borrowed an auger. "Mr. Nodder," said this witness, "told us men that he couldn't imagine what the capt'n wanted an auger for; two days after the hole was found bored in the lazarette."

Thus ran the questions and answers. Tom looked steadily at the witnesses as they spoke, but he made no sign; his arms lay motionlessly folded upon his breast. Twice or thrice I saw his eyebrows faintly lift, and his lips part as though to a deep breath of irrepressible horror and amazement.

The court adjourned for lunch when the two seamen had given their evidence; I remained in the court with my aunt. Mr. Johnstone came to us, and I asked him what he thought the verdict would be.

"Wait for it; wait for it," he exclaimed, petulant with worry and doubts. "Did I not tell Butler he had heavily blundered in over-insuring? And how well Rotch gave his evidence! How frank were the devil's admissions. Never a wink or a stutter with him from beginning to end. But the twelve have yet to hear the sergeant. Keep up your spirits, Marian," and he abruptly left us, but not without exchanging a look with his wife. I caught that look and my heart sank and turned cold as though the hand of death had grasped it.

When the court reassembled five witnesses were called to speak to Tom's character. It was shortly before four when the judge had finished summing up. I had followed Sergeant Shee's address with impassioned attention, eagerly watching the faces of the jurymen as he spoke, and detesting the judge for the sleepy air with which he listened, and the barristers at the table, and the people round about, for their inattention and frequent whispers, and passing of papers one to another on business of their own, as though the drama of life or death to me which had nearly filled the day had grown tiresome and they were waiting for the curtain. Then I had followed with a maddened conflict of emotion, but with an subtle gaining feeling of sickness and faintness like to the sense of a poisoned and killing conviction slowly creeping to the heart against its maddest current of hopes and protests—thus had I listened to the address of the counsel for the prosecution, who replied upon the whole case; and now I listened to Mr. Justice Maule's summing up, a tedious and inconclusive address. He made little of the points which I believed he would have insisted upon. He talked like a tired man, and retold the testimony, and I seemed to find a prejudice against Tom throughout his delivery.

Then it was left to the jury, and the jury, after an absence of 20 minutes, returned with a verdict of "Guilty" against the prisoner.

My aunt clutched my hand. I felt a shock as though the blood in my veins had been arrested in ice in its course. Mr. Justice Maule proceeded to pass sentence. He spoke in a sing-song voice, as though at every instant he must interrupt himself with a yawn. He said that the prisoner had been found guilty, after a fair and impartial trial, of the offence of having feloniously and wilfully attempted to destroy the ship Arab Chief for the purpose of defrauding the underwriters. That was the conclusion the jury had arrived at, and he was perfectly satisfied with this verdict. And then he pointed out the gravity of the offence, and how such acts tended to check the spirit of mercantile adventure, and how impossible it would be for insurance companies to exist if they were not protected by the law. He rejoiced that the penalty applied to this crime was no longer capital. At the same time it was his duty to inflict a severe punishment. The sentence of the court was that the prisoner should be transported beyond the seas for the term of 14 years.

My aunt sprang to her feet and shrieked aloud when this awful sentence was delivered. I sat dumb and motionless. Never once throughout the day had Tom looked in our direction; now on my aunt shrieking he turned his head, saw me, and at the instant of the warder touching him he lifted his arm and looked upward, as though surrendering our love to God. The next moment he had stepped out of sight.

My uncle came to us. He was white and terribly agitated and shocked.

"Come!" he exclaimed. "Come along out of this now. We have had enough of it."

He took me by the hand and I arose, but I could not speak; I seemed to have been deprived of sensation in the limbs; indeed I do not know what had come to me. I looked toward the bar where Tom had been standing and sighed, and then walked with my uncle, my aunt following. We passed out of the court and got into the Old Bailey, and when in Ludgate Hill my uncle called a coach and we were driven to his home. Nothing was said saving that my uncle once asked who cried out. My aunt answered, "I did."

I sat rigid, looking with blind eyes at the passing show of the streets. But how am I to describe my feelings? Ask a mother whose child has suddenly died upon her lap; ask a wife whose husband has fallen dead at her feet; ask an adoring lover whose sweetheart, taking refuge with him from a summer thunder-cloud, is slain by a bolt; ask such people so smitten to tell you what they feel. Nor can my tongue utter what was in me as we drove to my uncle's house after the trial.

When we were arrived my manner frightened my aunt; she feared I'd do myself a mischief and would not lose sight of me. I sat in a chair and never spoke, though I answered when I was addressed and obeyed mechanically; as, for example, if my aunt entreated me to come to the table and eat I quitted my chair and took up the knife and fork, but without eating. My gaze was fixed; I saw nothing but Tom standing at the bar of the Old Bailey, hearkening to his sentence, lifting up his hand to me and looking upward. If I turned my eyes toward my aunt Tom was behind her. If my uncle sat before me and addressed me the vision of Tom painted in bright colours receiving sentence and lifting his hand was behind him.

Once during the evening of the day of the trial, when my uncle came into the parlour, my aunt turned to him and said, "If she would only cry!" She took me to her bed that night, and I lay without speech, seeing Tom as in a vision, and hearing the sentence over and over again repeated. I may have slept, I cannot tell. My aunt wished me to remain in bed next morning, but when she was dressed I got up and followed her to the parlour.

My uncle sat by a glowing fire; he was deeply interested in a newspaper and was probably reading a report of the trial.

"Aunt," I said, speaking for the first time and in a voice so harsh and unmusical that my uncle, not knowing I had entered, looked up with a gesture of surprise and dropped the newspaper. "I wish to go home."

"No, dear, not yet."

I was about to speak; to say I believed my going to the house where my father and mother had lived, to the house that was full of old associations, where I had thought to dwell with Tom when we were married, would soothe and do me good. I was about to tell her this, but could not for giving way, and hiding my face in my hands, I bowed my face upon the table, neither of them speaking nor attempting in any way to arrest the passion of tears.

I felt better after this dreadful outbreak; it seemed to have cleansed my head, and to give room for my heart to beat and for my spirits to stir in. I looked at the good things upon the table, the eggs and the bacon, the ham, and the rest, and said, "How do they feed prisoners in gaol?"

"Now don't trouble about that, Marian," said my uncle. "Captain Butler has been a sailor, and he has been bred up on food compared to which the worst fare in the worst gaol in England is delicious."

"What will they do with him?"

"Until they dispatch him across the seas they'll keep him in prison, at Newgate perhaps, or they'll send him to Milbank or to the Hulks. No man can tell."

"Don't fret yourself now with these inquiries, Marian," said my aunt.

"How do they treat convicts in gaol, uncle?"

"Very well indeed. Better than the majority of them deserve. They feed them, clothe them, shelter them, and teach them trades to enable them to live honestly by and by."

"In what sort of ships do the convicts sail?"

"Oh, in average merchantmen. Owners tender and a ship is hired. There were twenty-one of them chartered last year at about four pun' ten a ton."

"Twenty-one!" cried my aunt; "I wonder there are any rascals left in England. Twenty-one! Only think! And perhaps two hundred rogues in each ship."

"At least," exclaimed my uncle.

"Are they passenger ships?" I asked.

"Many of them."

"Could one take one's passage in a convict ship?"

"Love you, no! no more than one could take one's passage in a man-of-war."

"Marian, you are making no breakfast," said my aunt.

"What do they do with the convicts when they arrive at their destination?" I inquired.

"Why," said my uncle, passing his cup for more tea, "I can only tell you what I have read. The convicts are lent out as servants to persons in want of labour on their farms, houses, shops, and so on; some of them are sent up country to make roads. I don't know whether they are paid for their work. They are well fed. It commonly ends in their setting up in business for themselves, and ninety-nine out of every hundred felons, after they have been out in the colonies for a few years, wouldn't come home, to stay at home I mean, on any account whatever. If I were a poor man I should not at all object to being transported."

"Don't say such things!" exclaimed my aunt.

"I shall follow Tom wherever he is sent," said I, pushing my chair from the table.

"What! To Norfolk Island, for instance? What would you do there?" said my uncle. "Far better wait in this country, my dear, until Captain Butler returns. He's bound to behave himself well."

I stepped to the window and looked out. There had been a note of coldness in my uncle's pronunciation of the words "Captain Butler." I had also caught a startled look, which was nearly horror, in my aunt when I said that I would follow my sweetheart wherever he was sent. I turned presently and said, "When shall I be able to see Tom?"

"Once only every three months I am afraid," answered my uncle. "The rules vary with the prisons, but I think you will find that letters and visits are allowed once every three months only. I'll inquire."

"Shall we hear if he is sent to another place?"

"We shall always be able to learn where he is."

He was growing tired of my questions and left the table, having finished his breakfast.

"I shall want to know what his defence has cost," said I. "I wish to pay."

He nodded, and pulling out his watch said that he must go to business downstairs. I ran after him as he was leaving the room, and, grasping him by the arm, cried impetuously, "Uncle, do you believe Tom guilty?"

"I'd not say so if I thought so," he answered looking at me, and I guessed by my feelings that my eyes sparkled and my cheeks were red. "Let me go, my girl. Everything passes, and to all of us comes a day when we discover that there is nothing under the sun which is worth a tear."

I dropped my hand and he walked out of the room. My aunt eyed me strenuously as I paced the floor. I could not sit, my heart was full of rage, and, all the while a resolution was forming and hardening in me; indeed I caught myself thinking aloud and often I'd halt with my hand clenched like one distraught. My aunt presently said, "Why not sit down, dear, and nurse your strength a little? You have been sorely tried. Cannot we arrange for another trip to the seaside?"

"And leave——" I cried, and broke short off, and forced myself to say softly, "No, aunt."

"But what do you mean to do? I wish to act as a mother to you, Marian. I thank God you are not his wife."

"Don't say that!"

"But I must say it!" she exclaimed bridling up. "It's through me you are not his wife, and I rejoice heartily I advised you as I did. What! Would you, with your means and your beauty, and your opportunities, be the wife of a convict——"

I felt the temper in me swelling into madness. I durst not stay, for I dreaded myself then, and flung out of the room, leaving her talking. I ran upstairs to put on my outdoor clothes, and when I returned my aunt was on the landing. She exclaimed that she had not meant what she said. I looked her earnestly in the face, for I did not believe her, but already my temper was gone, ill temper lives but a short time when there is great misery. I kissed her and thanked her for her kindness and love, and telling her I must go home to look after things, I left the house.

CHAPTER XI.

SHE VISITS H.M.S. WARRIOR.

I remained at home several days, seeing nobody, waited upon by my maid, and denying myself to everybody. My aunt sent to inquire after me and my maid's answers satisfied her. I pulled the blinds down and sat alone in my grief with Tom's miniature upon my knee. But always at dusk I stole forth and walked in the Old Bailey, close against the walls of Newgate prison, that I might be near my dear one. I wrote to him and took my chance of the letter reaching his hands. I told him that no man was ever more truly loved by his sweetheart, that wherever he went I would go, that let them send him where they would he would find me there, and I swore to him that he was innocent, the victim of a monstrous, transparent conspiracy, and I said I prayed every night to God to punish the villains who had brought us to this miserable state.

It was about a fortnight after the trial that one of my trustees, Captain Galloway, asked me by letter for an appointment; he presented himself with Captain Fairman, the other trustee. They were both bluff, hearty seamen of the old school, somewhat resembling each other though not connected. The motive of their visit was to get me to give up Tom. Captain Galloway had not forgotten my treatment of his son, and talked with ill-advised heat. He did not deny that he considered Captain Butler guilty. I listened with contempt at first, but this gave way to temper which rose into wrath, and I fairly gave the devil they had aroused within me his way. When they were gone I caught sight of myself in a mirror, and I looked as flaming and red and swelling and breathless as any mad murderess in a padded cell.

I guessed my aunt was at the bottom of these captains' visit. She must have asked Mr. Stanford to talk to me too; otherwise I doubt if he had dared venture it. Yet I listened to the fellow patiently till he told me that he spoke as the representative of my mother on earth; that made me think of my father and I started up. I meant no physical violence, though I was capable of it then, but my manner of jumping up was so menacing that he instantly started from his chair and hastened out of the room, slamming the door after him.

I would not trust my uncle to obtain news of Tom. I knew that all interested in me wished me to break off with my sweetheart, and would hoodwink me if they could by keeping me in ignorance that Tom had been sent out of the country. A clerk named Woolfe, who had been in my uncle's employ, had started for himself; he was a shrewd, unscrupulous young dog. I bargained with him to get me news of Tom, and to work all methods of communication practicable by bribery. From him I learned that my sweetheart had been removed from Newgate to Milbank. The fellow took a hundred guineas from me in all, but did no more for the money than discover where Tom was; and one day, about four months after Tom's conviction, this young rogue of a lawyer called upon me at Stepney to say that Tom had been transferred from Milbank to H.M.S. Warrior hulk, moored off Woolwich Dockyard.

"Are you sure?" I cried.

"I am now from Milbank," said he.

"And what will happen next?" I demanded.

"They'll keep him at forced labour at the Dockyard," he answered, "till a transport hauls alongside the hulk for a cargo."

"When will that be?"

"Impossible to say, miss."

"Will you get me the rules of the hulk?"

"They are the same as the gaols."

"But I have not seen Captain Butler since his conviction nor heard from him, nor know whether he has received my letters."

He answered that he would make inquiries and call. He was intelligibly punctual because he had to receive ten guineas, but he brought me what I wanted to know, and to my joy I learned that I was at liberty to visit Tom next day, and that he would be brought on board to see me if he was ashore when I arrived.

The morning following I dressed with care; I wore black clothes; I had worn black ever since my sweetheart was taken from me; I put on a black veil, and going into the street walked till I met with a coach, and drove to Blackwall. I had not visited these parts since Tom and I and the others had seen Will Johnstone off, and I dared not glance in the direction of the hotel in which my sweetheart had made love to me and asked me to marry him; indeed my heart needed all the fortitude my spirit could give it.

It was a bright hot day, the sky was high with delicate frost-like cloud, and the running river blue with the reflection of the heavens. The wind was a light summer breeze, and blew from London, and many ships of many rigs floated before it, some of them lifting lofty fabrics of swelling breasts of canvas, some of them dark, with a weather-stained look like my father's coasters. Here at Blackwall I took a boat and told the man to row me to the Warrior hulk.

"You know her?" said I.

He was an elderly man dressed in a tall hat and jersey; he exposed a few yellow fangs as he lay back on his oars and said, "Know her? Yes. Know the Warrior! Yah might as well ask me if I know St. Paul's. Going aboard?"

"Yes."

"Friend aboard?"

I inclined my head.

"I had a nevvey locked up in that there hulk," said the man. "He had six year. Now's out and doon well. He drove a light cart drawn by a nag as could trot, and called hisself a pig-dealer. Do 'spectable pig-dealers break into houses o' night? The Warrior cured my nevvey. He aint above talking of that ship. Get him in the mood and he'll spin yah some queer yarns about her."

"How are the prisoners treated?"

"Sights o' stone breaking and stacking o' timber. They put my nevvey to draw carts. They sunk his name and caa'd him a number. A man doan' feel a man when he's a number. But the job my nevvey least enjoyed was scraping shot."

"How are they fed?"

"By contract. Yah knows what that means. Beef all veins. Ever heard of 'smiggins,' miss?"

"No."

"It's hulk soup; convicts' name for greasy warm water. Call it twenty year ago. I was passing a hulk stationed afore the Defence came up; a boat was 'longside with provisions for the day; what d'ye think! With my own eyes I see the prisoners as was hoisting the grub out of the boat chuck it overboard. Was they flogged?" He shook his head, grinning horribly.

His manners and answers shocked and depressed me, and I asked him no more questions.

"Aint it rather sing'ler," said he, after a few minutes' pause, "that there's only one flower as'll grow upon the convict's grave?"

"Is that so?"

"Ay, and what flower d'ye think it is, miss?" said he, again showing his fangs.

"I don't know."

"It's a nettle. If yah should care to visit the burial ground yonder," he continued, with a backward nod of his head in the direction of Woolwich, "yah'll see for yourself. As if nothen' would blow over a convict but that! Of course the finger o' nater's in it. The finger o' nater's got the straight tip for most jobs. It's daisies for the likes of you and me, and nettles for them as goes wrong."

I was too agitated to converse with such a heartless creature as this. My mind was full of Tom; I wondered how he would greet me, how I should find him looking. We should be allowed but a quarter of an hour; what time would that give me, to whom a long summer day was all too brief in which to tell him how I loved him, how I meant to follow him, how our loyalty to one another should, if God permitted, triumph yet over the horrors and the sufferings which might lie between the now and the hour of victorious emergence.

(To be continued.)

OPEN WINDOWS.

Two strangers in a first-class railway carriage have got into somewhat friendly conversation. The windows have just been let down on account of the closeness of the day, and the desultory chatter is consequently turned to the subject of ventilation. "I make it," says one of the two, "I make it an invariable practice to advise people to sleep with their bed-room window open all the year round." "Ha, ha!" laughed the other; "I perceive that you are a doctor." "Not at all!" was the confidential reply. "To tell you the truth, strictly between ourselves, I am—a burglar!"

Surprise has been caused at Warsaw by the arrest of several Roman Catholic priests. The cause is not yet known.

The British Government possesses the greatest number of distinct flags, excluding those used for signal purposes, the number being 26.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The 32nd edition of that invaluable publication "Every Man's Own Lawyer" (Crosby Lockwood and Son) is not only thoroughly revised, so as to bring the contents up to date, but runs to about 50 additional pages. It is a work that no household should be without; if all had it and studied its information a good many lawyers would have to sweep crossings or perform other honest work. Very readable and interesting is "Neighbours of Ours" (Arrowsmith), by Henry W. Nevinson; the characterisation is exceedingly life-like. Amateur gardeners will find that handy annual, "The Garden Oracle" ("Gardeners' Magazine" Office), a useful book to have at hand. Its instructions are thoroughly practical, and not at all beyond amateur comprehension. The "Strand Magazine" begins 1895 in much enlarged form, the contents now stretching to 120 pages of reading, with 150 illustrations. But there is no sacrifice of quality to quantity. Its inseparable, the "Picture Magazine," also keeps pretty well up to the mark, but here and there one comes upon a plate which leaves a good deal to be desired. The February issue of the "Pall Mall Magazine" has the charm of variety in its ample contents. Most readers will feel, we suspect, a sense of relief when Mr. Besant's papers on "Westminster" come to an end. But, of course, few, if any, will have the courage to say so, for fear of being broken on the wheel of heresy. The following extensive assortment has come to hand in one batch from Messrs. Digby, Long, and Co.:—"The Maid of Havodwen," by John Ferrars; "Studies in Miniature," by a Titular Vicar; "A Tale of Two Curates," by James Copner; "The Wrong of Fate," by L. Lobenhoffer; and "The Needs for a Happy Life," by Edward Howley. There is no conspicuous merit in any one of the lot, but all are more or less readable.

HE WOULD A JOURNALIST BE.

It was at a Court ball in the palace at Rome, and King Humbert was surrounded by a group of well-known editors. After referring with expressions of admiration to the work which was done by the press and the conscientious manner in which those responsible for the conduct of the various papers carried out their arduous and difficult duties, he added, "Gentlemen, I have often said that I should wish to be a journalist were I not a king."

TO SLEEP WELL.

Positively life is getting too complicated. A woman specialist has arisen who calls upon us to take lessons in sleeping. Beauty sleep, she declares, is a delusion and a snare. The woman who goes to bed early expecting to get up rejuvenated is quite likely to add 10 years to her age in the night by sleeping herself into a full set of wrinkles. "We spend," goes on this doctrinaire, "eight hours out of the 24 in bed, and in that time postures are assumed that work injury not only to a woman's health, but to her possible good looks. One girl had no chest. I watched her day after day to find out the cause, but was completely baffled until I saw her while asleep. She shrugged her shoulders forward so far that it is a wonder the lungs were not squeezed flat. The up-to-date girl who wants to rise from sleep rested and with her face cast in the lines of beauty should sleep on a narrow bed, so there will be no room for her to distort her limbs by throwing them into grotesque positions. On this bed there should be a good mattress and one small, rather hard pillow. The bed clothing should be of light weight, but warm, and the room well ventilated and comfortably cool. On this couch the would-be beauty should lie flat on her back, arms and legs straight. To make a change from the back she could learn to sleep first on one side and then on the other. 'Oh, I always sleep on the left side,' or 'I can't sleep except on my right side,' are remarks continually heard among women. The dressmakers for such sleepers find that padding is needed on one side and that is the side 'I always sleep on.' Some people when asleep screw their faces into most grotesque shapes, and thereby instead of getting beauty sleep add a wrinkle or two every week or deepen those already carved. This applies particularly to those creases about the eyes. Perhaps you are young, but hints of wrinkles suddenly appear, apparently without cause. Find out if you do not squeeze your eyes tightly together when going to sleep, as a child does when it makes to believe sleep. Many women draw the corners of their mouths down and so produce furrows from the nose to the corner of the mouth and down the side of the chin. To get a beauty sleep go to bed thinking of the pleasantest things that will befall you. In the sleep beautiful eyelids rest lightly over the eyes as if a flattering breeze sweeping across the face would blow them wide open. The lips should meet easily, the mouth should never be open, and on the sleeper's face should rest an expression as if absolute contentment possessed mind and body."

BOARHOUNDS NEARLY KILL THEIR KEEPER.

Tammany is the name of one of the 11 German boarhounds which form one of the attractions of Barnum and Bailey's menagerie at present in winter quarters at Bridgeport. Having no spectators to growl at, these boarhounds are compelled to seek diversion in fighting with one another. In Tammany's cage there are four boarhounds, three black and one black and white, and two queer sheep with curly horns. One of the black dogs is hors de combat, having been vanquished and severely mauled by another black one. The other night the other two black dogs had a fight for supremacy. While the dogs were engaged in fighting, their keeper, Christian Rice, arrived with his big whip. Rice was brought over from Germany especially to take charge of these hounds, and he fears them no more than so many street curs. He went straight into the cage and began plying his whip to stop the fighting. In the turmoil that ensued Tammany turned on his master, and made a spring at his throat. Rice guarded himself with one arm, and with the other he applied the whip vigorously. He succeeded at length in driving the dogs, cowed and howling, into a corner. He did not, however, escape unscathed, for Tammany had fastened his teeth in his wrist and stripped the flesh from his hand. Rice had scarcely noticed the wound in the excitement of the fight. He knew he had been bitten, but was astonished to find the blood pouring from his hand. He went straight to a doctor, and had the wounds cauterised and bandaged. Rice seems to think little of the incident, though he says that his hand has caused him considerable pain. Now he seemed well and cheerful, and was attending to his charges as usual, petting and carressing them as though nothing had happened. He acknowledges that he is proud of the brutes, which, save for rare lapses, seem extravagantly fond of him. Tammany is not the largest of the hounds. He stands two feet six inches at the shoulder, and weighs close on 200lb., considerably more than Rice, who is a small man, though stoutly built. The boarhound's method of attacking a man is to spring straight for the throat and bear the enemy down. Once down a man is lost. These hounds in build look like a cross between a mastiff and a deerhound, combining the massive strength of the former with the activity of the latter. They have short, square, heads and erect cropped ears like terriers. The hair is short and smooth like that of a mastiff. The eyes, though a little bloodshot, are keen and intelligent. The circus dogs are in splendid health, being taken out for a daily run by Rice. Rice takes a special pride in one huge black and white dog, which, he declares, is the bravest and fiercest of them all, and has to be muzzled in its daily walks. In summer, when the show is on the road, the boarhounds perform various antics, together with lions and leopards in a large cage. They roll big rollers, climb ladders, and go through various circus tricks. Occasionally the boarhounds fight with the lions, and it is said that they could easily kill any leopard, and are quite ready to face even a lion. The Romans considered four British mastiffs a fair match for a lion, but Rice holds that two or three boarhounds would be more than equal to the task. While one would attract the lion's attention in front the other would pull him down by the flanks and overpower him, even as the staghound pulls down the stag. It is considered curious that the boarhounds do not harm the sheep, who munch away placidly, ignoring their troublesome cage-fellows.

The ice harvest has begun at many points on the upper Hudson River. The ice is of fine quality, and the season has opened unusually early.

AN OBLIGING MAN.

The details of a romance out of the ordinary was received at Sedalia, Mo., from Roanoke, Howard County. Leo Green, of Armstrong, and Miss Mae Patton, of Roanoke, were to have been married the other Thursday. On the Wednesday Green suddenly took his departure for the east without any explanation of his strange conduct. Among the guests invited to the wedding was John Key, a former sweetheart of Miss Patton. As soon as he learned of her disappointment he sent word to Miss Patton and her parents that if they were willing he would take Green's place at the altar, as he still loved her. The proposed agreement was accepted, and Key and Miss Patton were married. A. G. Cowdy and Miss Maggie Patton, a sister of Miss Mae, accompanied the couple and, to the surprise of their friends, were also married.

FISHING FOR HAWKS.

The other morning a blue hawk dived into a flock of quail at the edge of some second-growth timber near where Farmer Harrison was ploughing in Eaton Township. It disabled a quail, but failed to secure it, and the frightened birds arose and settled down around the ploughman. Tabor stopped the team, and, while the startled game birds sat trembling on the soil, the crippled quail joined them. The others flew to the woods presently, and the hawk sailed around and kept an eye on the wounded quail. Tabor ended the disabled quail's sufferings, and at noon set it up on the ground as though it were in the act of pecking, and with 50 feet of fish line fixed a snare for the hawk. When he returned to the field after dinner the hawk was yanking and fluttering at the end of the line, 50 feet up in the air, one of its feet having been caught in the snare. Tabor drove the team into the woods, and within half an hour he saw eight crows flying toward the flapping hawk with cries of delight. They began out of hand to whack the hawk, and cawed triumphantly as they kept it spinning and twitching at the line. The screaming quail-killer lowered and raised itself, but the cruel crows had got it for good, and they belaboured it ceaselessly till it dropped to the ground, where they pounded it to death. Then they went cawing to the woods, and a few seconds later a fox stole out of the bush, set his tusks into the hawk, snapped the fish line in two, and disappeared in the timber with his prize.

RED STOCKINGS.

A serious question to womankind is that suggested by a dispatch in the "Baltimore Sun," which stated that a woman had just had both legs amputated at the knee owing to poison resulting from wearing red stockings. This unfortunate lover of bright colours is a Boston woman—not Boston, Mass., for there the women favour only blue stockings, but Boston, Ind. Her name is Miss Eva Dooley. Baltimore women, unlike their sisters in some other cities, have a dainty little way of lifting their skirts just far enough to clear the dusty street, but not so high as to give the passers-by a glimpse at the colour of their stockings. It is, therefore, impossible for benevolent pedestrians who desire to warn humanity against possible amputations of the legs to find out directly which of their fair friends stand in this danger except by asking them the question, "Do you wear red stockings?" Inquiry at the stores reveals the fact that Baltimore women expose themselves little to the danger mentioned, for not one out of a hundred or more pairs of stockings sold here is red. For daily wear they are nearly all black, and for evening wear most of them pale blue, pink, Nile green, yellow, or cerise. Only when a red toilet is worn are red stockings and slippers used. A few never wear any but white unbleached stockings, a notion inherited from their grandmothers. In 1893 the popularity of the red stocking was at its height and could be traced to several causes. Lord Dunraven, on his visit to America at the time of the great Valkyrie-Vigilant yacht races, was noticed, it is said, by some admiring observers to be wearing red silk stockings. A troop of scarlet stockinged men and women immediately followed in his wake. Dealers in stockings say that the dye used in colouring them is obtained from cochineal, but that it is no more injurious in the fast colour dyes than black or blue. A substance of any colour coming in contact with a skin eruption, they say, might result in ill effects.

OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

M. Paderewski's throwing over the audience at Torquay, on account of Messrs. Moon, the local agents, lowering the seats to half the price charged when the great pianist performed there nine months ago, has caused a great deal of correspondence as to the merits of the case. There is no doubt that the artist's conduct has been very generally condemned. After all, it was with Messrs. Moon that his grievance arose, and he was neither fair, nor reasonable, in allowing his wounded feelings to recoil on the public which gives him such warm support.

Mr. Paderewski's amiable and generous disposition is well known, and no one would suspect him of any other reason for refusing to play, except the fear of his artistic worth being depreciated. At the same time, however, I think, it would have been wiser of him not to disappoint. People do not like such treatment, even from their most idolised favourite, and are quick to resent it.

I am very glad to hear that Madame Minnie Hauk has almost completely recovered from the severe bronchial attack with which she was suffering. The popular American soprano has been singing with the Carl Rosa Opera Company in Liverpool, playing amongst other parts, Santuzza, in English, for the first time.

The list of artists for the Eugene Oudin memorial concert, which takes place on Feb. 25, is indeed strong. It includes the names of almost every celebrated singer and instrumentalist of the day. Some of our most popular actors and actresses have also promised their assistance, and, altogether, so attractive is the programme announced, I should think St. James's Hall might be twice filled by the people who are sure to seek admission.

Matinees of Humperdinck's charming fairy opera, "Hansel and Gretel," will be given on and after Monday afternoon next, every day except Saturday, at the Gaiety Theatre, whither the highly-successful production will be transferred, in consequence of Daly's Theatre being required for the preparations of "The Artist's Model."

Listening with apparently equal pleasure as myself to Humperdinck's exquisite music and masterly scoring, on the 18th inst., I noticed Madame Rose Hersee, Madame Belle Cole, Mr. Plunket Greene, Mr. Charles Ellison, and many other musical people of note. Watching Mr. Plunket Greene's attentive face during the splendid drinking song in the second act, I could not help thinking that, in all probability, he will soon add it to his own repertoire.

The death of Mr. Edward Solomon, on Tuesday at the early age of 42, is much to be regretted. Although he had never done much heavy work, he composed several light operas, the music being invariably melodious and charming. "Billee Taylor," "The Vicar of Bray," and "Pocahontas" were, I think, his most successful works.

Mr. Solomon, as no doubt many of my readers are aware, was seized with typhoid fever about a fortnight ago, when he was actively engaged in rehearsing "The Taboo," at the Trafalgar Theatre, and no one really realised how dangerously ill the talented composer had been until the news of his untimely death was announced.

An interesting feature at the last of Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch's charming concerts of old English, Italian, German, and French music will be a performance of the original version of "La Marseillaise," accompanied on a curious and beautiful old piano, which was ordered by Napoleon for the Empress Josephine. This unique instrument is now in the possession of Messrs. L. and P. Erard, who will kindly lend it for the occasion.

M. Paderewski, who, as I have already mentioned, is the most generous of men, intends devoting the proceeds of his recital at the Town Hall, Hanley, on Tuesday next, for the benefit of the Audley disaster sufferers.

The fact that Mr. Gilbert would not give permission for his words, in connection with some of Sir Arthur Sullivan's songs, being printed in the programme books at the ballad concert in the Queen's Hall, on the 19th inst., did not appear to have any damping effect on the enjoyment with which the immense audience listened to some of Sir Arthur's most delightful compositions.

I should think the first performance in London of Doctor Hubert Parry's "King Saul" will attract an immense audience to the Albert Hall on Thursday week. In addition to the attractions of the oratorio itself, conducted by the composer, Misses Anna Williams, Marie Brema, and Hilda Wilson, Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Douglas Powell, and Henschel are announced as vocalists, aided by the Royal Choral Society.

The announcement of Madame Adelina Patti's engagement at the Royal Italian Opera is already the talk of London, and augurs well for the success of Sir Augustus Harris's season. If the popular impressario could only induce the famous prima donna to appear in one of the Wagnerian rôles, what a sensation she would create.

As it is, many people with slender purses are asking me which I would recommend them to go and see out of the operas in which Madame Patti is said to intend appearing. As, in my estimation, she is equally good in all, it is difficult for me to decide. I can only say, to those who like comedy, choose Rosina ("Il Barbiere") and Zerlina ("Don Giovanni"); to those who prefer tragedy, Violetta ("La Traviata") and Lucia ("Lucia di Lammermoor").

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

The new number of the "Royal Natural History" (part 15) is of exceptional interest, containing as it does the account of many of the most remarkable forms of the class of mammals. The orders treated of in this, the last number to be devoted to the mammals, are the conclusions of the Rodents, the Edentates, comprising the anteaters, sloths, and armadillos, the Marsupials, or pouched animals, consisting of the kangaroos, wombats, opossums, &c., and the Monotremes or Egg-laying mammals, embracing the Echidnas and that extraordinary animal, the duckbill or platypus. The Marsupials, with the exception of the opossums, are entirely confined to Australia and the adjacent islands. One of the most curious animals treated of in the present number, whose portrait will thus be placed before most of my readers for the first time, is the pouched mole, a little animal discovered only a few years ago in the sandy deserts of the interior of South Australia. The coloured plates are those of the red kangaroo and the two-toed sloth, the former not being very grand.

A correspondent writing from Steyning, in Sussex, sends me an account of an extraordinary monstrous lamb that was born alive in that neighbourhood last week. The animal was a sort of Siamese twins, joined together at the shoulders, the bodies behind being perfectly formed. In front of the shoulders, however, matters were different, for there everything seemed to be mixed up in hopeless confusion. The top of the head took the place of the face; on the left side of the head there were a mouth and two ears, an eye in the middle of the forehead, and on the right side of the head there was another face perfectly normal.

One of the commonest of our English animals, but one which is not very frequently met with in the country on account of its nocturnal habits, nor is often seen exhibited in menageries, because of its sleeping in the daytime, is the hedgehog. This little animal takes up its abode generally in hedgerows, where it curls itself up during the day in a nest of moss and leaves till the dusk of the evening, when it sallies forth in search of its meal. In feeding it seems to be omnivorous, hardly anything coming amiss to it; mice, frogs, worms, eggs, beetles, and snakes constitute a portion of its bill of fare. The hedgehog makes a very good pet, and, kept in a house where there are cockroaches or beetles, becomes very useful in ridding the place of these pests; in fact, large numbers of them are captured and sold for this purpose. One drawback to its being in great demand as a pet is its abominably prickly coat.

There is a notion in certain localities that hedgehogs suck the cows when lying down in the fields at night, but I do not think this has been proved to be the case, nor do I think it likely that a cow would bear such irritation. For this reason the animal comes in for a large share of persecution, and when met with in its wild state is invariably put to death. The hedgehog, it is stated, is very good eating, resembling rabbit in flavour; gipsies, I know, are very partial to it, and I have often come across a party of these people cooking one over their camp fires at night. The modus operandi is to roll the animal in clay, and then bake it over the fire; when the clay is removed the skin and prickles come away with it. The skin of the hedgehog is frequently made into caps, and worn by the country folk.

That animals have a language of their own, or have a means of communicating the interpretations of their minds to one another, I think is beyond question. If, however, some of my readers have not been able to make up their minds on this score, they might be convinced by watching more closely some of the members of the animal world. Take, for instance, a chicken when feeding with others; if he comes across a large piece of food, a certain note is uttered that attracts the attention of the others, or if there is a sign of approaching danger another note is uttered which puts all the others on the alert; this last trait is especially noticeable in a flock of rooks. I have often heard foxes in the country calling to and answering one another, and I am sure if my readers (some perhaps have) could hear this none would have any doubt left in their minds that a conversation is going on intelligible to the animals. Again it may be noticed when hounds are hunting, and their quarry is found, a certain note is uttered by the finder that brings all the others to his assistance.

As regards the animal language, it seems strange that man has not been able to understand the utterances of animals more completely, and that animals do remarkably well understand what man says to them is still more strange. That they do understand what is said to them cannot be doubted, at any rate, they respond by correctly carrying out what is ordered of them. True it is that the animal is taught by the man to understand his orders by repetition, and man has not the advantage of such a teacher, but with his keener perception it might be thought he could learn. So far man has learnt to distinguish between certain cries of the different animals, as, for instance, those of alarm or pleasure, but this is as far as his knowledge in this direction extends. One individual of the genus homo, however, has asserted, I believe, that he can converse in the monkey language with a gorilla, but on account of the premature deaths of the animals he brought home he was not able to satisfactorily convince his sceptical fellow-beings.

Several correspondents have sent me accounts of their respective experiments in poultry farming on a small scale; but as my space is limited I am quite unable to insert them all, and as each is as interesting as the other, I have not been able to conscientiously make a selection. At the same time I have to tender my friends my best thanks, and hope they will not be offended, and will, when occasion arises in the future, send other bits of interesting news.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the week ending Tuesday, 22nd, were rather numerous, considering the time of the year, and include a Macaque monkey, a black-backed jackal, a white-throated monitor (lizard), a jackal buzzard, a Lesueur's water-lizard, a yellow-headed conure (parrot), a brown-throated conure, two Mantell's apteryxes (wingless birds from Australia), a hog deer, a little auk, and a cardinal grosbeak.

THE ACTOR.

The rumour that Sir Augustus Harris thinks of producing at Covent Garden, next Christmas, a pantomime intended mainly for children has considerable interest. Such a pantomime was put on recently at the Opera Comique, but, unfortunately, it was not long-lived—through no fault of its own. What is wanted in a work of the kind is a thorough understanding of the juvenile heart, which rejoices, above all, in brightness and prettiness and movement. I have seen many pretty pantomimes, but they have too often "dragged," and sometimes they have been positively gloomy.

Take, first, a simple fairy tale; work it out simply; let no music-hall element enter; let all the artists be refined; have plenty of lively music; have plenty of processions and tableaux; and never, on any occasion, introduce anything ugly or forbidding, such as hideous masks or representations of noxious animals and insects. Then, I think, your pantomime will be a success. Too often, children are asked to witness in the theatre things which must infallibly depress or vulgarise their imaginations. From such things wise parents and guardians will carefully guard them.

I am glad to see that there is a prospect of welcoming Miss Janet Achurch back to the stage. It is understood that she will represent the heroine of Ibsen's "Little Eyolf," when it is performed in London in English, Miss Robins undertaking the rôle of the rat-wife—a female variant on the pied piper of Hamelin. Miss Achurch and Miss Robins show a keen instinct in devoting themselves so much to Ibsen. In his dramas they have been seen at their best. They enter into the spirit of Ibsen, and do justice to his creations.

There will be new performances before long, not only at the Avenue (now closed), but at Toole's. In the latter house there is to be some attempt, they say, at elaborateness of scenic effect; I hope too much will not be essayed, for the stage is small. At the Avenue Miss Yohe should be a verp presentable Dick Whittington, quite capable of getting on without the ordinarily indispensable Cat. The long popularity of "Little Christopher Columbus" augurs well for the fate of "Little Dick Whittington," which proceeds from the same clever pens.

The announcement that "The New Woman" will be withdrawn in less than a fortnight, and that Miss Marion Terry will appear in the piece that is to follow it at the Comedy, will have prepared playgoers for the approaching withdrawal of "Guy Domville," of which, next to Mr. Alexander, Miss Terry is the main support. In "Guy Domville" she is charming; I do not know any actress who could play and look the part so well. The character fits her like a glove. The author of the successor to "The New Woman" is, I hear, quite "a new man."

I trust that the removal of "Hansel and Gretel from Daly's to the Gaiety will in no way impair the vogue of that work. It has been drawing big audiences to the former theatre; when I last saw it there was not a vacant seat in the house. Personally, I think the transfer of a piece from one theatre to another very much to be deprecated in its own interests. The great public, outside the circle of regular playgoers, is inclined to be obtuse, it gets accustomed to look for a piece in a certain place, and, if the piece leaves that place, people lose sight of it.

Mr. Frank Harvey's appearance at the Olympic is, I fancy, his first visit to the West End of London as an actor. I may be wrong, but that is my impression. I do not think that, before this, he has got nearer to the Strand than Islington or a South-side theatre. He is an artist of considerable experience. I remember when he was playing lead with Mdlle. Beatrice. In the provinces his name is one to conjure with wherever melodrama is in favour.

None of the papers, so far, have published a complete list of Edward Solomon's performed pieces. The most nearly complete is that in the current issue of "The Stage," which, however, omits all mention of his "Quite An Adventure," "Through the Looking Glass," "Tuffins and Co.," and his music for The Guards burlesques "Ivanhoe" and "Robinson Crusoe." Then there are the many pieces for which he wrote incidental numbers.

OLD IZAAK.

The extraordinary weather, coupled with renewed floods, has put a stop to nearly all Thames angling, and for the first time during a very long period, I have absolutely nothing noteworthy to record. The professional fishermen are having a hard time, and although the bank angler has the best of it at present, it is only in exceptional cases, where skill and a thorough knowledge of the conditions are combined, that even he succeeds in obtaining sport. I can only hope better things are in store, but for the time being anglers are best at home.

Mr. C. H. Wheeley, of the Piscatorial Society, writing me from Weybridge on Wednesday last, says, "I am sorry to say the rivers are in full flood again, the Thames very high, and will most likely rise quickly. With the flood and all the snow water, I cannot see any favourable prospect of angling for some time to come." Mr. Wheeley, of course, refers to the Thames and its tributaries in his neighbourhood, but similar reports reach me as to other waters.

There was hope for Lea fishermen last week, and a few roach rewarded one or two anglers, but the river is now in full flood. The Hertford district has been inundated, and right on through Broxbourne, Waltham, and Tottenham water is everywhere to be seen.

The Arun is also affected by the snow and rains, so that very little has been done in the Pulborough or Amberley waters. A few roach and jack were taken early in the week, but not of any exceptional size. When the water gets right some good jack ought to be taken, and it will not be for want of trying if some of the specimen fish to be found there do not come to grief.

The second annual dinner of the British Sea Anglers' Society comes off on Thursday evening next at the Holborn Restaurant, and promises to be a large and successful gathering. No branch of sport has made such rapid strides of late as that of the sea angler, and it has the advantage of being often available when the rivers are in flood, and the fresh-water fishermen finds himself at sea, in a sense somewhat different to that contemplated by his salt-water confrères.

The "state visit" of the Central Association to the Penge Anglers proved a brilliant function, no less than 28 clubs responding when Mr. Charles Watling called the roll. It is needless to say Messrs. C. A. Medcalf and W. J. Wade ably filled their respective posts as chairman and vice-chairman, and the entire proceedings were marked with much enthusiasm. Excellent talent was provided, and the room at the Lord Palmerston, Maple-road, large as it is, proved quite incapable of accommodating the numerous anglers who had assembled to honour their brethren at Penge.

The well-known Bermondsey Brothers had an outing last week, the fishing being limited to the Thames and backwaters. Mr. Conn, their secretary, tells me the members visited all parts of the river, and although several of their members got fish, the takes were very small. The three first prize winners were Messrs. H. Patman, J. Smith, and W. Streeton, in the order named, and Mr. Patman's take scaled a little over 4lb., a very creditable performance in the present condition of the water.

The Serapis Anglers, meeting at the Nevill Arms, Nevill-road, Stoke Newington, announce a "Ladies' night" for Wednesday next, Jan. 30, when Mr. Alfred Jardine is to read a paper entitled, "An Angler's Wife in Peaceful Valley, by Fishful Streams," and some harmony is to follow. Ladies' nights have proved very successful at the Gresham and other societies, and there is no reason why they should not do so at the Serapis. I wish them an enjoyable evening.

There were some interesting speeches at the Holborn Restaurant when the question of the abolition of prizes was discussed by the Piscatorial Society, and the general feeling undoubtedly was that it was a great honour to be the winner of one of the £5 5s. cups the society from time to time offers for competition. These cups are practically given for the greatest weight of specimen fish, barbel, roach, chub, bream, and jack, caught by a member with one rod and line, in water open to all, and shown in the club room on any meeting night during the season. Such contests as these cups are given for only evoke the most friendly feeling, and certainly add greatly to the enjoyment of the meetings by placing fish upon the table that might otherwise not be shown.

While rivers are in flood, and fishing impracticable, anglers can hardly do better than overhaul their tackle, and prepare for "the good time coming" yet, let us hope, before the season ends. Rod-rings should be rebound where needful, a coat of coachmakers' varnish applied to the rods, and a little vaseline to the reels. Lines and hooks should be carefully looked to, that the angler may make the most of his opportunity when it offers, and be saved the annoyance occasionally arising from some mishap, which a little forethought would have readily prevented.

The Anglers' Association delegate meeting, at which 53 clubs were represented, was presided over by Mr. W. H. Beckett, V.P. Mr. Manning reported that members of 18 clubs attended the Park Angling Society's visit, at which £2 13s. 4d. was collected for the Anglers' Benevolent Society. The Royal Oak had also a successful visit, when £1 2s. 7d. was handed over for the same good purpose. Mr. Abrahams announced a proposition that night fishing be allowed in all the association's waters, which he will bring forward at the next annual meeting. Mr. J. Jennings, hon. treasurer of the recent Windsor competition, reported that the handsome sum of £21 10s. clear profit had resulted, which would be handed to the committee of the Anglers' Benevolent on Friday next.

GENERAL CHATTER.

Thank goodness, the Earl's Court Grounds are only a little above Thames level. Were these pleasant gardens perched on the top of, say, Campden Hill, half London would be dominated by the Great Wheel. Whatever may be the delights of being revolved in its cars, and whatever the profits resulting to the spirited proprietors, the structure bids fair to be the ugliest eyesore ever on show in London. Already its hideousness is quite oppressive to the neighbourhood; mothers are said to quiet naughty infants by threatening to make them look at the monstrosity.

Much too bad would it be to compel a husband to pay for drink surreptitiously consumed by the wife of his bosom. That would be, indeed, seething a kid in its mother's milk. Long live, then, the excellent county court judge who lately scouted a claim of this sort brought by an innkeeper against a married workman. But what ought to be done to those grocers—there are some—who supply intoxicants to wives under spurious names? A correspondent writes me that, being surprised by the alarming growth of his weekly bills for tea, coffee, and sugar, he ascertained that a feminine member of his family had directed her private supplies of port and sherry to be so classified in the household account. The grocer excused his compliance on the pretence that he thought the drink was for family consumption generally, and that they must be teetotallers who wished to keep their tippling secret.

When a Bengalee does lend himself to rascality, even a Levantine cannot give him points. I have just been reading a case in which a Mahomedan father and mother were bribed by a well-to-do son of Islam to bestow their juvenile daughter on him in marriage. All three were aware that the girl already had a living husband, and that if she took another she would commit bigamy. They nevertheless bullied the poor child into consenting, and she thus had two spouses at a time of life when little English maids would be playing with dolls. It is pleasant to record that the three inhuman conspirators got six months' rigorous imprisonment.

There is little question, I believe, that the Queen's physical health is not quite so robust as it was. Still, her Majesty is wonderfully strong for a lady of her advanced age, and shows as great capacity as ever for the discharge of her onerous duties. These occupy several hours daily, and are often of a nature involving much mental toil. There is no greater misconception than the Radical notion that the Queen lives a life of luxurious indolence. She works faithfully at any cost of personal inconvenience, and expects all around her to copy her self-sacrifice. Whether as a woman or as a Sovereign, the English people have every reason to be proud of their "Grand Old Woman."

A steamer has just crossed the Atlantic with, probably, the richest cargo ever carried in a single vessel. She had on board two twenty-power millionaires, in the persons of Mr. W. W. Astor and Mr. W. H. Vanderbilt, whose united wealth is said to total up to between 40 and 50 millions sterling. "Prodeegious!" as Dominie Sampson would have exclaimed; it makes one wink even to read of such inordinate riches.

Anent some recent remarks of mine about tipping and its abuse, a waiter writes me a deplorable tale, showing how impossible it would be for him and his family to keep out of the workhouse without these benefactions. That holds good, I am aware, in numbers of cases; waiters are shamefully underpaid. But my strictures on the tipping system had exclusive reference to what goes on in great houses, where the servants are always very well paid by their employers. Moreover, if tipping were abolished, employers of waiters would have to increase their wages, under penalty of having to do the waiting themselves.

The time has not yet arrived for British emigration on any large scale to the more recent additions to our African empire, but before the end of the century there will be, I predict, several thriving settlements in Matabeleland, Mashonaland, and Nyassaland. On the high plateaux, the climate suits European constitutions admirably, the soil is marvellously fertile, there is an abundant water supply, black labour can be hired on very cheap terms, and owing to entire absence of frost all the year through almost anything may be grown.

"The modern draper must be an artist," was the dictum of a speaker at a gathering of the trade at Birmingham. Quite true; the artistic eye is essential for preserving harmony of colouring among the goods on display. Unsympathetic colours should never be placed alongside of one another; whenever that mistake is made, both suffer. Just look at the difference in this respect between the shop windows of great drapers and those of the smaller fry. The former are, as a rule, models of good taste and æsthetic discrimination, whereas in the latter one sees such hideous contrasts as make the hair stand on end. Yes; every young man who aspires to eminence as a draper should be a master of colour.

An indignant provincial, who has suffered much from cats, writes to a local paper announcing his stern resolve to strew poison in his back garden. He had better reconsider that decision; otherwise, he will be likely to find himself in collision with the law. Neighbours' cats are, it must be admitted, a profound nuisance, and often when kept awake by their hideous love songs have I wished that the whole feline race had only one neck that it might be decapitated at a single blow. All the same, the law is right in interdicting the strewing of poison; there is danger to humanity in that cruel practice.

Mr. Archibald Murray, the editor of "Murray's Guides," has just produced a little handbook, price one penny, detailing the best routes from all points of the compass to the Crystal Palace. Exhaustive time tables are given; while for the further benefit of the country cousin, there is an appendix supplying information about London theatres and other places of entertainment in the metropolis.

Perhaps some reader learned in the law will solve a perplexing legal problem which has just been submitted to us. A husband obtains a divorce from his wife; the decree nisi is duly confirmed; that marriage consequently becomes void; can he, then, marry the divorced wife's sister? We have vainly searched for some definite ruling on this point; our own impression is that such remarriage would be illegal, but the statute only makes mention of a "deceased" wife's sister, and says nothing about a "divorced" wife's sister.

MADAME.

The reign of the blouse bodice is more than ever in the ascendant. Long may it continue so, will, I am sure, be the sentiment of all my readers, for never was there invented a garment which has proved more universally popular or more generally useful. A very different matter is the blouse bodice of today to what it was when we first took to it. Then, its chief characteristic was comfort; now, it is not less comfortable, but it has become as well "a thing of beauty," and that, we know, means "a joy for ever." What a boon it is to the home dressmaker and to those to whom economy is a necessity. A neat blouse bodice will make a well-worn skirt look quite smart; that is, if the skirt has undergone the renovating process I suggested last week.

With a view to giving helpful hints to my readers, I will give two samples of the blouse bodice that seem to me specially suitable for wearing with winter skirts. One was composed of all wool serge of sufficient thickness to do without lining. The colour was a rich shade of blue, brighter in tone than the ordinary navy. The make was very simple, and, at the same time, smart-looking. The upper part of the blouse was smocked in honeycomb pattern, to simulate a deep rounded yoke, the neck being finished with a high collarband of pale blue silk arranged in soft folds. The blouse was arranged at the waist to be worn either under or over the skirt, as desired. Wide sleeves were finished at the wrists with a deep band of honeycomb smocking.

The other blouse was equally charming, and would make up well in various materials. I admired it in a soft woollen fabric, a lovely shade of petunia. It was made over a lining; both back and front were slightly full. A very wide box pleat went down the front, in the centre of which were the button holes. The buttons, rather large, were of cut steel. By the way, buttons are very much coming into fashion. The neckband was of petunia satin, covered with ecru lace. Very wide bishop's sleeves had small satin cuffs covered with ecuer lace to match the neckband.

Some changes are predicted in the cut of skirts. Some of the new dresses are being made with a shaped seam at the back in order to enable waist gathers to be dispensed with. This make of skirt is to have no fulness whatever at the top, but is gored in such a way as to stand out in full folds round the foot. The edict has gone forth that skirts are to continue to be worn short for walking. By this regulation a walking dress should not even tip the ground, but keep well clear of it. Long may this fashion continue with us, for surely there is no more unsightly object than a long skirt trailing in the street.

Brown and black continue to hold their own in popularity as a colour combination. Time was when I thought we should never be reconciled to it, but now I must confess we are won over to more than tolerate, even to admire, it. I was greatly taken with a smart little out-door cape. It was of brown cloth, with a warm reddish tinge in it. The cape reached a little below the waist, and was so shaped as to be sufficiently wide without being clumsy. The shoulder cape was also shaped to fall gracefully over the figure. The entire outer edge of cape and shoulder cape were trimmed with soft black feather trimming, the stand-up collar being edged with the same. As the season advances feather trimming is much used in place of fur.

A fashionable style for afternoon gowns is the new fashioned embroidered cloth robe. The embroidery is so arranged as to allow of the skirt being sufficiently wide at the foot without too many waist gathers. They are intended to be made up very much on the lines of the new cut of skirts I told you of. These embroidered cloth robes are to be had in all manner of lovely colourings, amongst them shades of tan, fawn, blue, as well as darker colours. In some of the embroidery jet is introduced with wonderfully good effect.

A pretty new fashion for dressy afternoon gowns is to have the bodice tight fitting at the back, with a loose blouse front. A good idea, I think, for a gown of this description would be a soft make of woollen crepon, the colour a deep shade of smoke blue, the skirt plainly made with the correct even fit above, widening out below to allow of perfect freedom in walking, all fulness being arranged to fall behind in rounded folds.

The new make of bodice is cut to fit the figure at the back. In front a yoke piece of black velvet reaches to the bust; into this is set with fine gathers the loose full blouse-front of crepon. It fastens invisibly at the side; revers of velvet, edged with narrow jet trimming, fall back over the wide tops of the sleeves. The sleeve tops, composed of crepon, are gathered below the elbows into long under sleeves of black velvet. This style of dress would make up well in any soft woollen.

MR. WHEELER.

I am amused at the serious way in which some people who ought to know better have taken that peculiarly shallow suggestion made by an ex-leader of the Racing Men's Association as to a new definition. A more flabby, indefinite definition was never put on paper, and the attack upon the Amateur Athletic Association was puerile and has been condemned by every practical cyclist I have met—as was set forth in several articles which I perused last week. The N. C. U. and A. A. A. are both strong—practically invincible—in their own domains so long as their cause is a righteous one, but to frame a so-called definition and practically admit that its only object is to retain the title "amateur" for a lot of professionals, is not a correct proceeding. I think the "definition" would fail to find a seconder if proposed at a Union meeting, and I am at a loss myself to understand how any cycling journalist could be so ill advised as to give himself away by fathering such impracticabilities.

Everything points to a big season, and the recent changeable weather is all in favour of good roads ere long. The frost broke up the road surfaces to some extent, and those surveyors who get the stones down find them going in grandly. Some heavy patches which I saw and walked round a few weeks back are now well welded into the road surfaces, and easily rideable, and if any local cyclist will take the trouble to jog the memory of the local official and induce him to get the stones spread, they and all who pass through their district will benefit thereby. In some parts of Surrey and Hampshire the methods of road mending are terrible—and Macadam—not McAdam, by the way—would shudder if he saw the 4in. to 6in. thick bed of stones laid across the road for 25 yards at a time. In some places the distinct rise in the road can easily be felt for a long time after the mass has been pounded partially solid. After all, the French method is the best, each road man being given charge of a given stretch of road practically for life. He knows every inch of it—the soft places and the hard, the sound and the rotten—as regards the subsoil, and his few inches of carefully broken stones here, and his half-dozen there, his open drainage trenches, and his assiduous tending produce roads which are absolutely unequalled; and the tourist in France can please one of these hard-working men with a word or two of praise for the road surface—if accompanied with a pour boire so much the better.

I admit my astonishment at the number of ladies who continue to ride the winter through. They are to be met with on all roads around London, and nine out of ten are "rationally dressed." This presumably has a good deal to do with their winter work, as few skirted women will face the mud, wind, and wet of the present season. On all hands I hear of new recruits to the sport of the softer sex, and with the opening of the season and the advent of decent weather I believe the appearance of a vast number of lady riders will be a subject of general comment. The fact is, the encouragement given to cycling by many good people—the Duchess of Portland is one of the newest recruits—will make a vast difference in the manner in which "our daughters" proposition to ride a bicycle will be received.

ANNOYING AILWAY PASSENGERS.

SALUTARY PUNISHMENT.

A man, giving the name of Dr. Kennedy, of Rastlyroad, South Kensington, appeared before Mr. Lushington at Bow-street, on Tuesday, to a summons charging him with interfering with the comfort of three ladies travelling on the District Railway.—Mr. J. Haynes, for the prosecution, said three actresses, two of whom were engaged at the Gaiety and one at Daly's Theatre, were in the habit of returning home by the Underground Railway after the conclusion of the performance. On Jan. 4 they did so, and going down the steps at Charing Cross Station were followed by the defendant, a doctor of medicine, and a male friend. They walked along the platform to a point opposite where the second-class carriages stopped, and the defendant followed them. They were about to enter a carriage when the defendant got in, and they retired to another compartment. The defendant and his friend followed them. As soon as the train started the defendant began to make use of language which the witnesses would write down. The language so shocked one of the ladies that she jumped out at Westminster Bridge, and gave information to the guard. The ladies got into another compartment, and, on arriving at Sloane-square, the defendant asked the guard whether any complaint had been made against him. The station-master was called, and the ladies repeated their complaint to him, and names and addresses were taken. The husband of one of the ladies communicated with the company, and these proceedings were taken.—Miss Marie Yorke, of the Gaiety Theatre, and Miss Eva Upton, of Daly's Theatre, bore out the opening statement. They declined to repeat the language used by the defendant, but wrote it. They agreed that the defendant was sober at the time.—Evidence was also given by railway officials as to the complaints made by the ladies. One of them said that he should have known nothing about it had it not been for a statement made to him by the defendant, who indignantly denied the charges made against him.—For the defence Mr. Osborne said the defendant entered the carriage with a male friend. They took no notice of these girls. They hardly knew they were there. Defendant was a married man, and wanted nothing to do with these or any other girls. Defendant had a conversation with his friend, without dreaming of the girls in the compartment, and was quite surprised when they made a complaint. He (Mr. Osborne) did not know what was in his mind at the time, but they had evidently gone too far in supposing that the defendant and his friend were referring to them. There was another gentleman in the carriage, a stranger to all the parties, who would give a true version of what took place.—Mr. H. S. Bragge, who described himself as a tutor, said he was in the carriage with the defendant when this offence was supposed to have been committed. He was quite sure that no offensive language was used. It was pointed out to the witness that Miss Eva Upton had stated that she jumped up, and threatened to stop the train if the defendant used bad language.—Asked why she should do this if no such language was used, witness said he supposed she wanted an advertisement.—Mr. Arthur Maitlar, of Warton-road, Kensington, a well-dressed young man, who was also in the carriage, said he did not hear the defendant use offensive language; but he said to witness, "You look quite nervous with three fine young women sitting opposite you."—Mr. Lushington, in giving his decision, said the language alleged to have been used by the defendant was spoken in a closed compartment, where everything above a whisper must have been heard by all present. The testimony of the young women was as clear as possible, and he quite believed them. It had been suggested by one of the witnesses that Miss Eva Upton acted as she did in order to secure an advertisement; but he was glad to say that no such suggestion was made by the solicitor for the defence. There could be no doubt that the defendant and his companion had talked and acted at the young women, and he must impose a fine of 40s. and £3 3s. costs.

SHOCKING ASSAULT ON A WIFE.

At the County of London Sessions, James Cornall, a publican, and Clara Saunders, barmaid, surrendered to bail on a charge of assaulting and beating Eliza Cornall, the wife of the male prisoner. Mr. A. Hutton prosecuted; and the prisoners were defended by Mr. G. Paul Taylor.—The Cornalls lived apart under a separation order, and as the male prisoner had not paid any money for some time, Mrs. Cornall went to the Crown Beer-house, Arlington-road, kept by her husband, on the 17th December, and asked him for some. Saunders then struck her on the face and head, giving her two black eyes. Several of her teeth were knocked out, and one was loosened. Prosecutrix was knocked down, and whilst she was on the ground her husband, she alleged, called "Go on," to a dog, which began shaking her, and tore her clothes, as well as biting her on the leg. The police afterwards took her to a hospital, where her wounds were dressed. A warrant was granted, and the prisoners were arrested by Insp. Wait.—The jury returned a verdict of guilty.—Saunders was sentenced to four, and Cornall to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour. The latter was ordered to pay £12 towards the cost of the prosecution, or in default to be further imprisoned for one month.—Prosecutrix, whilst giving her evidence, fainted away twice, and once she had to be carried out of the court.

LORD ROSEBERY A "HEDGER."

"His turf experiences have taught him the value of hedging. He may think it, on the whole, more advantageous to him to continue to do so. His mind is, I should say, essentially a hedging mind."—"Truth," Jan. 17, 1895.

Speaking at Nelson on Thursday, Earl Spencer said that in the coming Parliament there would be moving discussions and important divisions, and it was more than probable that things would take place which would leave their mark on political history.

JACK ALLROUND.

The cement for sticking photographs into an album, which "E. Y." asks for, is thus made:—Put one ounce and a half of hard gelatine to soak in half a pint of water. When the gelatine gets soft, place the vessel it is in into a considerably larger vessel containing hot water, and keep up the heat until the gelatine has quite melted. Then add one ounce of glycerine and five ounces of methylated spirits; mix well, in a wide-mouthed bottle for convenience, and keep it well corked. It will jelly when cold. When you want to use it, either place the bottle before the fire till the cement melts, or stand it in hot water. When using, leave it open as little as possible, as the air spoils it. This is what I always use in mounting silver prints. But with regard to the platinotype photographs, upon which "Rod" consults me, I always employ boiled starch.

In replying to "Welsh," who writes: "Please tell me how to dye with indigo," I conclude my correspondent requires some of the easy popular methods for giving a blue colour to woollen goods or garments. The following is of no use for cotton goods. Take half an ounce of Spanish indigo, powder it fine, and pour over it half a pound of oil of vitriol. Stir these well together, then add a piece of pearlash about the size of a pea, and as soon as fermentation is over bottle the mixture, which will be fit to use 24 hours after. The bath for dyeing is made by putting as much of the mixture into warm water as will colour it sufficiently to suit your taste. The goods to be coloured must be well washed, and let them lie in the warm dye bath long enough to receive the shade required; then take out and dry, after which wash in lukewarm suds and rinse. This is perhaps the very simplest of the popular methods of indigo dyeing.

"Can you suggest a good substitute for gold leaf for the doing up of picture frames? I have tried several different sorts of stuff for gilding, but the frames soon become dull again, and if you know of no substitute can you tell me of something for gilding that would wear well?" writes "E. J. S." I have letters also from "J. B.," "Toby the Second," and "A. A.," requesting instructions for regilding picture frames and mirrors. I know of no satisfactory substitute for gold leaf. You may, no doubt, with far greater ease make a fair show for a little time with several of the powders and paints sold for gilding, but none of these can last like the gold leaf, while to apply that successfully requires no small amount of patient practice. Having removed the picture or mirror from the frame, begin with a sponge and clean water to well wash the frame, and let it dry. You should have some gold water size, and also make some thin size yourself by boiling either pieces of parchment or dry hide in water, and while this is still warm mixing into it some of the gold size until you get it into a condition that will allow of your working it smoothly over the frame. Give the frame an evenly laid on coat of the size so prepared, and let it dry; then lay on a second coat, and when that is dry, lightly rub it over with the finest glass-paper to remove any slight unevenness there may be. Your great endeavour must be to have a perfectly smooth surface.

Your frame is now ready to receive the gilding process. For this you will require to have the proper gilder's knife, pad, and long-haired brush, as well as a book or books, as the case may be, of gold leaf. On large flat surfaces the gold leaf may be laid on in pretty large pieces, but where there are mouldings it will need to be cut in small pieces with the knife on the pad. Carefully wash over the frame with clean water and a soft linen rag, and when the moulding is dry lay on the leaf. Have at hand a bowl with clean water, and two or three camel-hair pencils of different sizes. With one of the pencils wet a few inches of the frame where you commence to gild, being careful to wet no further than you are to work. First let the water remain pretty full on the surface of the frame, but allow some of it to be imbibed by the gold size. Then, with the gilder's tip—the flat, long-haired brush I spoke of—proceed to pick up a piece of the leaf-gold cut upon the pad, which latter should be held in your left hand. If the gold does not at once adhere to the end of the long hairs, pass the tip lightly over your own hair or across your cheek, which some find best; it helps the brush to pick up the gold. The gold so picked up is laid on the few inches prepared on the frame, and when that portion is on it is blown forcibly to expel the water as much as possible from underneath, and a dry camel-hair pencil is used to press down any portion of gold that fails to adhere. Another few inches are wetted as before, and so you go on, taking care that the gold is always made to overlap a little as you proceed, till the frame is covered. Then rest it on the edge to drain, and, when perfectly dry, dip a camel-hair pencil in water and wipe the gold over with it. This will take off loose particles of gold and make it look solid. For any parts not covered, take up bits of leaf gold with a dry pencil and lay on as before. Then give the whole a coat of clear parchment size, brush the back edges over with ochre, and the frame is finished.

I am very pleased to give "Head of Struggling Household" the following recipe "for economising, by using up cold meat so that a little meat may make a substantial dish." It was kindly sent to me a few months ago by a correspondent at Dorking. To one pound of cold meat allow two pounds of cooked mashed potatoes, one onion minced, one ounce of butter, one pint of water or gravy, pepper and salt to taste. Fry the onion in the butter; put into a pie dish a layer of potato, a little seasoning, a layer of meat, then onion; pour over some of the water or gravy, and continue the layers until the dish is filled. The whole should be covered with a layer of potatoes. Make the potatoes rough on the top with a fork, put on a few pieces of butter over it, and bake till brown.

Six correspondents ask a recipe for dyeing and renovating black dresses, coats, &c. The garments must first be brushed and shaken from dust, and all greasy stains removed; in fine, whatever has to be dyed must first be cleansed. To prepare and apply the black renovator or dye, boil half a pound to a pound of logwood chips in a copper containing from two to four gallons of water; let this boil for half an hour, then dip the garments to be treated first into clean water, allowing them to get well soaked through and through, then squeeze them as dry as you can, open them up, and put them into the logwood liquor in the boiler. See that they are fully covered by the liquor; allow them to boil for half an hour, then take them out, and add four drachms of sulphate of iron to the liquor. Allow it to dissolve, then put in the garments again, and boil for another half hour; take them out, and hang them dripping on a line for an hour or two, after which they should be rinsed in three cold waters and dried, and when dry, well brushed with a rather soft brush. In the case of coats, if the nap be worn rather smooth in parts it may be brought up by using a teasle head over it a few times.

To make ginger nuts, or spice nuts, as they are respectively called by "W. H. H." and "Geo. G.," take for ingredients three-quarters of a pound of golden syrup or treacle, half a pound of moist sugar, a quarter of a pound of lard, half an ounce of ground ginger, a quarter of an ounce of mixed spice, and as much prepared, that is, self-raising flour, as will make the above into a light dough. Rub the lard, sugar, ginger, and spice into the flour, and when these are thoroughly mixed make a bay or hole in the middle, and pour the syrup in and mix together. When mixed, roll it out into a sheet with a rolling pin, dusting it lightly with fine ground rice to prevent sticking; then cut out to the size and thickness of a penny, and place the nuts on well greased tins, half an inch apart; wash them over with water, and bake them in a cool oven.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

The first batch of long service medals for the Volunteers of the Home District is to be sent to London for distribution, those for the other military districts following immediately, all to be despatched from Birmingham before next Thursday. The mode of distribution has yet to be announced, but it certainly should partake more or less of a public character. At all events, I sincerely hope that the medal will not be sent through the medium of the Post Office, which, I believe, occurred more than once in the case of the V.D.

While on the subject of the V.L.S.M., I notice that a correspondent writing to the editor of the "Volunteer Record" raises a rather interesting point. He wishes to know whether the 20 years' consecutive service necessary for obtaining the medal must each have been years during which the full capitation grant has been earned, or whether a year in which the 10s. grant only has been gained, or the fine for non-efficiency paid, will help to qualify for the medal. The "V. R." inclines to the belief that, as the term is understood in the Volunteer regulations, a man earning the lower grant is an efficient within the conditions qualifying for it.

A large and appreciative audience were assembled at the headquarters of the 4th West Surrey, when Maj. Stacpole, the chief of the Army Service Corps in the Home District, gave his lecture upon the "Inspection of Meat," Lord Methuen showing his interest in the proceedings by presiding. It is believed that this lecture is merely the first of a series upon kindred subjects, and Lord Methuen—as an earnest of his desire that the Brigade Supply and Transport Detachment should be thoroughly instructed in their duties—has sanctioned the formation of a night school of instruction, which will commence on Feb. 4, at 73, New-street, Kennington, and will continue every evening during the week, at 7.30. The subject will be "Transport," while the remainder of the course of a further 10 or 14 days will be held at Chelsea Barracks at the same hour, the subject being "Supply." Those who pass will be rewarded by certificates of proficiency.

The Home District Tactical Society have decided that their annual winter outdoor exercise is to commence on Feb. 22, and to continue till Feb. 26. It will be under the direction of Col. Henderson, and the ground fixed upon is in the neighbourhood of Blackwater, to the north of Aldershot.

It is rumoured that the War Office have given their sanction to the proposed division of the 2nd V.B. Royal Welsh Fusiliers into two battalions of eight companies each. As the battalion now contains thirteen companies, this alteration will necessitate the formation of three extra companies, which should not give any great amount of trouble to Col. Davis-Cooke, A.D.C., the commanding officer, judging from the large number of candidates for enrolment. Another Welsh corps—the 3rd V.B. Welsh Regiment—I may mention, has for the second time running, the honour of making the largest return of strength. It has 23 companies, and returns 2,267 officers and men, of whom 27 only were non-efficient last year. Perhaps the latter corps would be none the worse for being broken into two; it could certainly stand the operation.

In connection with the Volunteer long service medal, I have received the following "hard case" from a correspondent:—He first joined the 11th Lancashire Rifles in 1863 and served the two following years, for which he was returned efficient. On the expiration of his apprenticeship he left the town until 1869, when he returned and entered what was then known as the 21st Lancashire Artillery Volunteers, and was returned as efficient from 1869 to 1877, retiring in that year, owing to business engagements, with the rank of sergeant. In 1878, being stationed in Liverpool, he joined the 1st Lancashire R.V., and served as an efficient from that year until 1886, leaving as senior corporal. His business then took him on the continent for nearly two years, but on his return he joined the 2nd West Kent, with which he is still serving with the rank of sergeant.

I think my readers will agree with me that this is indeed a hard case, for, as will be seen from the above, my correspondent has practically been a Volunteer for 31 years. It was only when his business took him abroad that he was away from a corps. His present colonel and adjutant recommended him for the medal to the authorities at Maidstone, but they refused the application because the last break was for more than 12 months. I sincerely hope that the powers that be will reconsider their decision.

Upon the occasion of the annual distribution of prizes to the members of the London Scottish, their fine headquarters were well filled by a large and distinguished number of guests, among others being the Marquis of Lorne, Field-marshal Sir Donald Stewart, Maj.-gen. Sir F. Grenfell, D.A.A.G., Col. Gascoigne, commanding the South London Volunteer Infantry Brigade; Col. H. Lumsden, a former commander of the corps; Col. Mackinnon, secretary National Rifle Association; Maj. Erskine (Scots Guards); Capt. Dutton Hunt, district inspector of musketry; Maj. the Hon. J. Napier; Maj. Maclure, late L.S.R.V.; Maj. M'Kerrell, Col. Edis (Artists'), and Capt. J. G. Petrie (Finsburys). The guard of honour was under the command of Capt. Hampton.

Lieut.-col. Balfour expressed his regret that the Marchioness of Lorne was unable to distribute the prizes, owing to indisposition, and announced that Lady Grenfell had kindly consented to do so in her absence. The colonel made a few remarks as to the financial standing of the corps, and stated that last year they had lived well within their income, and, referring to the difficulties that have arisen with regard to their corps ranges at Wimbledon, stated that the corps formed part of the very arrangement by which the public had any rights at all in the common. If, however, they had to provide money for new ranges at Bisley or Staines, and ceased to obtain the income which they had derived from the letting of their present ranges, the difference would be greater than the saving they had made; therefore the outlook was not very hopeful.

Col. Gascoigne, in the course of his remarks, announced that the South London Brigade would proceed to Windsor for Easter, he having received the sanction of her Majesty to that proposal last Tuesday. The brigade is to be accommodated in the two barracks at Windsor. The Marquis of Lorne proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Grenfell, and said that Princess Louise had been greatly disappointed at not being able to attend. Alluding to the question of providing range accommodation for the Volunteers, he expressed the hope that the Government would see that the force were not deprived of their ranges by any fanciful fear on the part of the public, for it was of vital importance that every man in the Volunteer force should become marksmen. Hearty cheers having been given for Lady Grenfell, Maj.-gen. Sir Francis Grenfell acknowledged the compliment, and said that after an experience of many years in the Army he could say that he had never seen a finer guard of honour than the one furnished that evening. As to the range question, the military advisers at headquarters had done their very best to put the matter before the Government, and he believed that when the time came the Government would be ready to take the matter up. An enjoyable concert followed.

The Saddlers' Company have made a grant of £50 to the building fund of the Church House.

While the Laird steamer Shamrock, from Londonderry for Glasgow, with 100 passengers and about 200 head of cattle, was going down Lough Foyle on Wednesday night, the steering gear fouled and the stern swung round, smashing several plates and allowing the water to rush in. The captain resolved to beach the vessel, and ran her ashore in Culmore Bay, six miles from Londonderry. When the vessel was beached at high tide it was reported that there were 6ft. of water in the hold. The passengers and cattle were taken on Wednesday by the Laird steamer Elm. The Shamrock lies high and dry at low water.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From the World.)

The Queen has been taking a long drive every afternoon, and has visited a number of pretty places within reach of Osborne, with Princess Beatrice. Her Majesty has passed through Newport seven times since her arrival at Osborne.

The Queen will leave Windsor for the Riviera on Tuesday, March 19, if the course of public affairs admits of her departure from England on that day. Her Majesty will therefore arrive at Cimiez on the evening of Thursday, the 21st, and her present intention is to stay there for five weeks, and then go to Germany for ten days or a fortnight before returning to England. The Queen will cross from Portsmouth to Cherbourg on her outward journey, and the return passage, in the Victoria and Albert, will be from Flushing to Port Victoria, near Sheerness. The Queen is to get back to Windsor, according to present arrangements, on Friday, May 10.

The Queen never entertained an idea of presiding at the launch of the Majestic at Portsmouth, and the statement that Lord Spencer went to Osborne the other day to "take her commands" as to the arrangement of the function was simply an invention. It is probable that Princess Beatrice will act as sponsor. The Majestic is to be floated out of dock on Thursday, the 31st.

The Prince of Wales will entertain a large house party at Sandringham next week for his sale of shire horses, which is to take place on Friday, Feb. 1, at the Wolferton Stud Farm, when about 50 animals of the very highest breeding will be offered without reserve. There is to be a luncheon before the sale, at which the prince, the Duke of York, and the guests at the hall will be present.

The Duke and Duchess of York, who are residing at York Cottage Sandringham, will arrive at St. James's Palace for the season on Monday, Feb. 4, and are then to remain in town until the end of March. The Duke and Duchess of Teck and Prince and Princess Adolphus are expected at Sandringham this week.

Mr Justice Barnes, who is the youngest of the judges, has returned to town, I am glad to hear, from Malvern, very much improved in health.

After a week of almost uninterrupted storm and rain, the weather has at last picked up on the Riviera. Last Friday was brilliantly fine, with cloudless sky and unbroken sunshine till the evening. As all the Riviera resorts are filling fast, the adverse weather was greatly complained of; it even kept the Empress of Austria in the house.

The living of Sheffield is in the gift of the Simeon trustees, and not of the Crown, as has been generally stated. The mistake probably arose through Archdeacon Blakeney having been presented by the Crown in consequence of the promotion of his predecessor (Bishop Rowley Hill) to the See of Sodor and Man. The value of the living is about £1,000 a year, and the vicar has considerable patronage; but the possession of private means is an indispensable qualification. The vacant archdeaconry (£200 a year) is in the gift of the Archbishop of York.

Excellent reports are being received by Mr. Gladstone's friends of the state of his health. This, of course, is the cause of genuine satisfaction to everybody from a personal point of view. But Mr. Gladstone's political friends are rather embarrassed in their delight; for the ex-Premier makes no secret of his intention of spending some time in town on his return from the South of France, and of looking in now and then at the House of Commons. A mere personal visit would no doubt enthuse the party, but another leader added to the many who now manage the business will prove a grave source of embarrassment. Efforts are therefore being made to induce Mr. Gladstone to pledge himself not to speak in the Commons if he does attend the debates.

Mr. John Morley's silence during the recess has only been less remarkable than the reticence of Sir William Harcourt. He is to break it with a speech at Newcastle next Tuesday, if he abides by his present purpose. The occasion will be rather a trying one for him, for his popularity with his constituents has not been increased by what they consider his neglect of them. Moreover, he will be haunted by the consciousness that an Independent Labour candidate is to be run against him at the next election, and that if only five thousand of the electors vote for that candidate Newcastle will know Mr. Morley no more.

A preliminary survey of the prospects of Disestablishment privately made by several members of the Church Parliamentary party is in all ways encouraging from their own point of view. Without going into details, it may be said that, if the disestablishers are growing noisier and noisier, the influential supporters of the Church in Wales are daily more and more numerous. In Scotland there is to be noted a strong movement against Disestablishment, of which the latest manifestation is the Scotch Laymen's League, consisting of members of all denominations.

I hear that the National Liberal Federation meeting at Cardiff was a dismal affair, although almost superhuman efforts had been made to achieve a success. There was a general limpness pervading the proceedings, and the hall was seldom more than half full. The wirepullers were disconcerted by the fact that the speakers who were best received by the audience were those who had been carefully put in the background on the official programme. Worse still, the only subjects which aroused any enthusiasm among the delegates were the Veto Bill and the Disestablishment question, which are the two items in the Ministerial programme which are hopelessly dividing the party. The failure of the cry against the House of Lords was complete and ignominious. The Cardiff meeting has greatly disappointed and disgusted the harassed leader and manager of the Ministerial awkward squad.

Great consternation has been caused in Colchester, Burnham, and other parts of Essex by the ostracism of the oyster. The county is not in a flourishing condition, and if the oyster industry should be permanently damaged it will be a serious thing for a not inconsiderable part of the population. If it can be shown that the foreign oyster does all the mischief, and that the native is perfectly wholesome, so much the better.

(From Truth.)

The Queen has signified her approval of the new Volunteer medal for long service which has just been submitted to her Majesty at Osborne, and this decoration will probably be issued early next month.

A romancing evening journal announces that during the recent cold weather the Queen "transacted her correspondence" in the Swiss cottage in the "private gardens" at Osborne every morning. This is a pure invention. The Queen often visits the cottage during her morning airing in her donkey-chair, but she invariably transacts her daily business in her own private rooms in the palace, beginning directly after her outing in the grounds, and going on writing until luncheon.

The Prince of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York are to arrive in town for the season on Monday, Feb. 4. The Princess of Wales intends to proceed to Sandringham, to join her daughters, when she returns to England, and H.R.H. will stay there until Monday, Feb. 25, and is then coming up to Marlborough House for a short time before she goes abroad again.

The Duke of Coburg's name has been struck out of the list of members of the Privy Council. The Duke of York, Prince Christian, and Prince Henry of Battenberg have recently been sworn in as Privy Councillors. The Duke of Coburg never took any oath, as the sons of the Sovereign are born Privy Councillors, so that when they attain a proper age they are merely "introduced" at the Council, instead of being sworn in like all the other members.

The council of the Royal Botanic Society can scarcely be said to have met the suggestion for opening their grounds in the Regent's Park to the public generally—on payment—in a liberal spirit. I do not think that in the present day there would be any great fear of wilful damage or injury resulting from such a proceeding, taking into consideration the fact that no such complaints are prevalent at Kew, where the admission is free. The Council might make the experiment of admitting the public by payment on, say two days in each week. During the spring and summer months this innovation would doubtless prove a boon to busy visitors to London, who are not acquainted with any Fellow of the Society, or, being even in that privileged position, are unwilling to take the trouble of applying for an admission order. I am bound to say that on most ordinary days the appearance of the gardens suggests the idea of a highly cultivated desert, where (to drop into poetry) the flowers seem "born to blush unseen." I think the Council would do well to reconsider the subject.

Of late years there has been a decided improvement in the lighting of railway carriages. But perfection has not yet been attained, so far as the facility to read is concerned. This is because the lamp is always placed in the middle of the roof of the carriage, with the result that those reading have to sit askew to profit by it. Surely this could be remedied by having the lights at the side; for this would not increase their number or their cost, each lamp doing duty for the seats below it in two carriages.

As for railway lamps, the resources of civilisation have never been equal to the occasion. I believe that I have bought every railway lamp that ever has been invented, but I never found a good one, and, like most people, I have fallen back on sticking a candle on the side of the window ledge.

For smoking, too, there is an absence of common sense on the part of railway managers. Why not have in every carriage, receptacles for ashes, ends of cigars, and cigarettes?

I trust that the day will come when all railway carriages will be made on the corridor system. This is unquestionably the most convenient to travellers, and I do not suppose that they are more expensive than the old-fashioned ones. Comfort is the test of a railway carriage. Who in the world cares whether its upholstering is expensive or the reverse?

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From Moonshine.)

The Italians are fighting the Dervishes, and it is said are getting the worst of it. We fear that this must be too true, because, up to now, we have not heard that the Italians have once killed Osman Digma.

Patti says that to lose one's temper is to lose one's voice. That may be the case with some ladies, but it has not been always our experience.

Mons. Casimir-Perier is succeeded by Mons. Faure in the French Presidency. A kind of Lord Rosebery in his way, Mons. Casimir-Perier has disappointed the friends who thought too much of him. He went up like a rocket and—burst with the charge.

The French Ministry also resigned last week, but that is what French Ministries think nothing of doing. There is one good point about a French Ministry, it does not wait to be told twice that it is not wanted. Nothing will induce our gentlemen at Downing-street to see things that way. Once in it is impossible to persuade them to go out—even with a keeper.

The Anti-gambling League has summoned the Jockey Club. We shall all be good now. No more betting—just a sweep though, perhaps, here and there.

Among the chairmen of the newly-elected parish councils are many well-known athletes. This is perhaps natural, as they would be sure to have plenty of friends and sporters.

(From Punch.)

A FRIENDLY WARNING.—First Tramp: I wadna advise ye tae gang up there.—Second Tramp: What wye? Is there a muckle dong?—First Tramp: No; but there's a danger o' wark!

PAST AND PRESENT.—Serious and Much-married Man: My dear friend, I was astonished to hear of your dining at Madame Troisetoiles—a "Woman with a Past," you know!—The Friend (bachelor "unattached"): Well, you see, old man, she got a first-rate chef, so it isn't her "past," but her "re-past" that I care about.

A TOAST.—Mamma: To-day's our wedding-day, Tommy. You should stand up and drink all our healths.—Tommy (rising to the occasion): Certainly. "Father—mother—and" (pointing to himself)—"the result!"

"MY OLD DUTCH!"—See Exhibition of Old Masters' Works, Burlington House.

AT LITTLE PEDLINGTON.—Jones: Do you use gas?—Village Operator: Yes, sir. But I much prefer daylight!

"Oyster Bars."—The prohibitive price of natives and the typhoid scare.

Why is the modern fictionist like a dog-fancier?—Because he is so fond of short tails.

(From Lika Joko.)

The Rev. James Weller, the gentleman who meanwhile is occupying Mr. Haweis's pulpit at Marylebone, has a new way of looking at contributions to the plate; at any rate, has a way of ignoring precedent. He announced on Sunday "that copper money is not received at this church." Widows with mites are warned to seek spiritual comfort elsewhere than at St. James's, Marylebone.

At the Royal Academy, it is stated in a contemporary, special attention will be paid during the coming picture season to afternoon tea. Well, one expects a caddy mission to be in full swing at Burlington House.

THE KANGAROO TO MR. STODDART.

You didn't exp ct it, my sonny?
Yet, truly, complain you must not;
For you wanted "a run" for your money,
And, complying, I gave you A. Trott.

ART FOOD.—Mamma: Come, Adolphus dear, get on with your pudding—it's nice tapioca.—Adolphus (son of our artist): Please, mummy, I don't mind the ochre—I don't like the little floating tappies.

CHEEK.—Client: That little house you sent me to see yesterday is in a most scandalous condition. It is so damp that moss positively grows on the walls.—Agent: Well, isn't moss good enough for you? What do you expect at the rent—orchids?

There is nothing new under the sun; in all probability there were chestnuts in the Garden of Eden.

A TRUE VERE DE VERE.—Friend of family (to Tommy, who has been ill): Well, Tommy, and how are you this morning?—Tommy: Thank you, my temperature is quite norman now.

(From Judy.)

Advice to Would-be Cyclists: Trycycle before you buy-cycle.

MATTER OF FACT.—Mr. Benjamins: What do you mean to do about this loan I made you?—Mr. Hardup: Leave it alone.

"What are heathens, uncle?" "Heat'ens? Oh—ah—heathens are people who don't quarrel over religion."

AT THE EXAMINATION.—Examiner: How many kinds of poetry are there?—Student: Three.—Examiner: Name them.—Student: Firstly, lyric; secondly, dramatic; and thirdly, ep—ep—ep——Examiner: Well, "ep" what?—Student (flustered): Ep—idemic.

"Cousin Ethel, is Col. Blazer a brave soldier?"—"Oh, I don't think he's afraid of powder."—"No, I don't think he is, for I saw his nose against your face last night."

MATTER OF FACT.—The Rev. Mr. Hobbs: I believe the deceased die in his seventy-second year?—The Widow: No, sir, in his bed.

IN THE SERVANTS' HALL.—Footman (to Housemaid): I'm surprised, Susan, that you should have allowed the master to kiss you. I would never dream of allowing the missus to take such a liberty with me.

(From Pick-Me-Up.)

Gentle Johnnie: I suppose at times you find your present occupation a difficult one.—Budding Ballet-Girl: In winter time especially I find it very hard to bare.

FOREBODINGS.—The hauteur of the girl made him frantic.—"Smile upon my suit," he pleaded.—"I cannot," she answered, not without evidence of agitation.—Yet he urged her.—"It is an awful risk," she mused, aside.—His impetuous words burned into her very soul.—She wavered.—"I'm afraid," she faltered.—"Fear not," he cried.—She yielded, smiled, and broke the enamel on both sides of her nose, just as she thought she would all the time.

WISDOM.—She: Do you think a girl ought to let a man kiss her before she marries him?—He: Yes, if she expects to be kissed at all.

(From Fun.)

AT THE BALL.—Dorothy (bored to death, and reckless, to friend who has come as a fool): How suitable some of the costumes are to-night, Mr. Saphead.

The Charge of the Light Brigade.—Three shillings and threepence per thousand feet.

What a silly book! I can't make anything of it. Exactly. Tom said it would require brains.

NOT GOOD FORM.—Miss Maud (in pretty toboggan costume): Why, Cousin Ben, what have you got your gun and ammunition for?—Cousin Ben: Wasn't I invited to attend you on a toboggan shoot.

A SOFT ANSWER, &c.—Father (angrily): Allow me, sir, to furnish your empty head with a few plain facts!—Son (deprecatingly): Certainly, Dad; but not on the 'ire system, please.

THE TEACHER IN LOVE WITH HIM.—Tommy (boasting to his playfellows): The teacher is dead gone on me, and likes me better'n any of the other kids.—Dicky (very doubtful): Oh! come off now, Tommy Puffer, I don't believe that.—Tommy: Fact! Most every evening she hates to have me leave her, and keeps me with her in the school-house after she dismisses the others.

CHARGED WITH HOUSEBREAKING.

At Thames, Charles Tanner, 21, and Henry Hammerman, 30, were charged with breaking and entering 1, Walburgh-street, St. George's, and stealing therefrom property valued at £6 7s. 6d., the property of Solomon Happell, tailor. In August last prosecutor went away on a holiday, and left his housekeeper, Annie Millins, in charge. One day the latter had occasion to go out, and on her return found that the place had been entered. Drawers had been forced open and a number of articles stolen. A carman proved seeing the prisoners enter the house by means of a key. The case was placed in the hands of Det. Hancock, and, from information received on the 18th inst. he took the carman to the Guildhall Police Court, where he identified a man named Robert Peake, who was in custody on another charge. Through that identification the officer apprehended Tanner. The latter, on being told the charge, said, "Yes, I lent them the key. You have not got Harry Hammerman. He works at Collier's, at the end of Walburgh-street. He had the boots." On his arrest Hammerman said, "Yes, that is quite right."—Committed for trial.

THE DOCTOR'S PANELS.

At Marylebone, Frederick Augustus Lennox Percy, 45, described as of no occupation, living in Victoria-street, Westminster, again appeared to answer the charge of having wilfully broken the glass panels of the front door at 36, Hyde Park-square, and done damage to the extent of £2, the property belonging to Dr. Henry William Gell. Prisoner had been remanded in order that the state of his mind might be inquired into.—Mr. Plowden now said that he should allow the prisoner to go free upon his paying the cost of the damage and a small fine.—Prosecutor, interposing, said that the prisoner ought not to be permitted to be at large, as he was not of sound mind. Besides that, the prosecutor wanted some protection.—Mr. Plowden observed that his information respecting the state of the prisoner's mind was quite different. If the prosecutor was of another opinion, he, as a medical man, knew what course to adopt.—The prisoner was then ordered to pay £2 for the damage, and a fine of 5s., or in default suffer seven days' imprisonment.—The prosecutor left the court saying that it was disgraceful.

A SONG OF THE LIFEBOAT.

I sing a song of the lifeboat crew,
Sons of the sturdy oar!
Whose hearts are steadfast, firm, and true,
When angry billows roar.
Who flinch not when the raging gale
Sends forth its deadly breath;
Whose spirits ne'er a moment quail,
Though in the jaws of death.

I sing a song of the lifeboat crew,
They're heroes every one!
They ask no meed, but what is due
When lives are bravely won.
To them death's name breathes naught of fear,
They dread no watery grave,
But danger face, with ringing cheer;
Their mission is to save.

I sing a song of the lifeboat crew,
Men strong of arm and heart!
And I sing of the lifeboat too,
She plays a noble part.
She dashes o'er the foaming deep,
Through storms does force her way,
And with her gallant prow to keep
The angry surge at bay.

Her crew heed not the lightning's flash
Or angry thunder's roar;
They reck not how the billows dash
Upon the rock-bound shore.
They know but this, that human lives
For help each moment cry,
And heart and limb each brave man strives
To save them ere they die.

We read each day on history's page
Of battles fought and won;
And how, while man cruel war did wage,
Some brave deeds have been done.
For blood is fired and flows free then,
And man with man does vie
How best to kill his fellow men,
And like a hero die!

For clash of blade and bugle call
Set loose the dogs of war;
And many stand where many fall,
Not so 'mid billows roar.
There blood is fired with love and hope,
And men's lives are at stake;
And still more strengthened is the rope
Which Mercy's angels make.

The lifeboat is the forlorn hope,
Her crew fear not to die
"To save men's lives, with death we cope!"
This is *their* battle cry.
And so they launch and onward go,
Their souls with love aflame,
And who, then, has more right to know,
Or bear the hero's name?

When they return, reward is won,
For, as they step on land,
All say "A noble deed is done!
Honour the lifeboat band,
Who flinch not when the raging gale
Sends forth its deathly breath,
Whose spirits ne'er a moment quail,
Though in the jaws of death!"

I sing a song of the lifeboat crew,
I sing it with a cheer;
God bless those men so brave and true
Through every coming year.
God grant that they may never need
To ask help from a friend;
On heroes, both in name and deed,
God will His blessing send.

L'ENVOI.

Oh, ye with wealth and goodly store
Of all bright things of life,
Think, think, when angry thunders roar
And billows are at strife,
Of how the lifeboat puts to sea,
To bring men safe ashore,
And that it e'er may ready be,
Give to it of your store.

For kindly hearts have built the boat
And fitted her with care,
That she may through the breakers float,
And angry billows dare.
In Mercy's name 'tis now I speak,
Let this cry never be,
"The men are strong, the boat is weak,
And dare not put to sea."

F. J. DAVIS.

MILITARY UNIFORMS.

At Croydon, Henry Willington, a labourer, was fined 25s. 6d., under an Act which came into operation this year, for wearing an undress Hussar uniform without her Majesty's permission. A private on leave lent defendant the clothes. This man and Willington were subsequently sentenced to two months' hard labour each for an unprovoked assault upon a woman.

A RASCAL PUNISHED.

At Marylebone, John Pewsey, 25, alias Castell, was charged on a warrant with embezzling £6 odd, the money of his employer, Mr. W. Whiteley, of Westbourne-grove.—Prisoner had been a van porter in prosecutor's employ, and part of his duty was to deliver goods and to receive money, which he should have handed over to Mr. Tuiley, the chief cashier. On Oct. 20, prisoner delivered goods at the house of Mr. Bannister, one of the Paddington relieving officers, living at Ashburnham road, Kensal Rise, and received the amount in question, but absconded without accounting for it.—Det. Nursey, F Division, afterwards arrested him at the Grand Theatre, Islington, where he had obtained employment. Prisoner said he had had his "fling," and must now put up with the consequences.—Det.-sergt. Thompson, F Division, informed the magistrate that the prisoner had behaved very cruelly. He had been in the 4th Dragoon Guards, and knew a comrade named Castell. By some means he obtained the latter's discharge papers, and as that man's character was good, he used the documents and assumed his name to get the situation at Mr. Whiteley's. When prisoner's defalcations became known Castell was arrested by the police and detained for a time. It was only after inquiries had been made that the personation was discovered, and then, of course, he was liberated.—Mr. Plowden sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour.

STARVED IN LONDON.

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, coroner for East London, held an inquiry into the circumstances connected with the death of a man unknown.—James Jones, a labourer, stated that on Sunday evening he was waiting for the doors of Medland Hall to open in order to get a free night's shelter. Witness said 300 persons were admitted each night, and many hundreds were waiting for admission. Deceased told witness he felt weak and ill and had had nothing to eat. When the doors opened the man made a step forward and then fell on his head as if in a fit.—P.C. West said that he conveyed the man to the infirmary. Water was given him at the hall, but no stimulant.—A verdict was given that death was due to congestion of the lungs.—The coroner commented on the fact that the doctor who was first called to see the deceased had not ordered him nourishment. Ultimately, the jury added to their verdict, "That the deceased's death was accelerated by exposure and want of food, also want of proper medical attention, and we are of opinion that a stimulant should have been given the man."

When the new harbour works at Dover are sufficiently advanced it is stated that a dry dock will be constructed to meet the growing requirements of vessels using the English Channel.

THE THEATRES.

TRAFALGAR.

On Saturday there was produced at the Trafalgar Theatre another of those operatic extravaganzas which have now so long been held in favour by fickle public, but the new comer fared worse than most of its predecessors. "The Taboo," a fantastic opera in two acts, by Mason Carnes, music by Ethel Harraden, is a work which fully justifies its description, the plot being a curious one, abounding in detail, and in many respects weakly following the plan of topsy-turvydom made popular by a more

Vestida, Miss St. Quinten. Bigomoko, Mr. Humphreys. "A miserable, melancholy man."

mature librettist. Although the multitude of situations tends to bewilderment, and the fantastic names of the characters do not assist matters, the book has its good points, and a number of the verses are neatly turned. The music, by a sister of the gifted authoress, although not at all exceptional, is adequate, and the composer has succeeded in evolving several effective melodies and some praiseworthy concerted pieces. It is when their orchestration is considered that musicianship is found wanting. One or two of the numbers, however, stand out from the rest as being well scored, and it was these, we should fancy, which Mr. E. Solomon, who was to have orchestrated the whole work, took in hand, before he fell so seriously ill. The title of the opera is taken from the dread curse which the Prime Minister of Bellmaria,

Prince Timaru.—Mr. Wilfred Howard.

"He is but five-and-twenty."

an Island in the Southern Pacific, is able to inflict upon any offender, the taboo condemning one to silence and isolation for 12 months. Papakio Sanbellmaria (Mr. Harry Paulton), king and perpetual Prime Minister, has a queen, Wattatauka (Madame Amadi), who is an advanced new woman of the lecturing type. By the laws of this dusky nation it is a crime to become a royal mother-in-law, the penalty for which is death or eternal silence. To rid himself of his marital pest Papakio endeavours while the new woman is lecturing at Bloomerfield, some distance away, to marry his son, Timaru (Mr. Wilfred Howard), to Orama (Miss Lettie Searle), a Bellmarian, but the hearts of these two are otherwise inclined, the royal heir wishing to espouse a dancer, Pateena (Miss Nellie Murray), while her brother Ranoro, a peasant (Mr. Kelson Trueman), loves Orama. They outwit the king by the aid of Vestida de Culteria e Compania (Miss Lizzie St. Quinten), a dressmaker princess, who figures prominently throughout, and when the king finds that the age of the heir had been concealed by the Queen, and that he has to give up the throne to his son, he

ACT II.

"THE CURSE OF THE TABOO."

King Papakio, Mr. Harry Paulton. Queen Wattatauka, Madame Amadi.

taboos his child to the accompaniment of weird music and ghostly illumination, while the royal mother-in-law chooses eternal silence. This is but an insufficient indication of the plot of the first act, which, like the second, must be speedily compressed if the opera is to have any chance of success. The scene, the Coronation Chamber of the Palace, affords opportunity for the display of brilliant and many-coloured costumes, and Mr. Horace Sedger, who produces the opera, has spared no pains to make it imposing. A noticeable feature of the first act was the spirited singing of the chorus, for which the composer has written some of her most effective music, and a prettily harmonised quintett, "In this very difficult matter," merits praise. Dancing, too, added to the general vivacity, and one of the items which might be made amusing was the appearance of a quartette of old-fashioned ballet dancers, "ancient, ugly, and radically deformed," the only terpsichorean exponents permitted by the queen into the palace precincts. Miss St. Quinten, an old favourite, worked hard and effectively; Miss Searle, who has a bright and pleasing voice and manner, had some taking music to render, and later in the opera sang a dainty little song, "Love came into my heart one day," where also occurs an effective quartette. "Life is but a puppet show," Mr. Frank Wyatt, as Septimus Octopus Sharp, a wily lawyer, made his appearance in the second act (the scene of which is a glade in the forest), and by tricking the tabooer and the tabooed manages to secure the crown and the hand of the Princess Vestida. The "denouement" is decidedly feeble, and a capable caste could not infuse life into the story. Of the many characters the one really out of place is Bigomoko (the melancholy guardian of the king's fidelity), who in the person of Mr. G. Humphreys, is a harmless but unnecessary figure. Under the conductorship of Mr. Barter Johns the performance was only tolerably successful. One of Omara's songs, "Oh, Years Ago," was encored, as was also her duet with Ranoro, "With Wild Despair," and the curtain fell amidst applause at the end of the first act. During the second, however, our masters in the gallery (who had previously expressed resentment at the fee system) were divided in opinion, and even the appearance of Mr. Wyatt, who received a perfect ovation, and danced in his clever eccentric fashion, did not altogether restore good humour nor make up for the weakness of the oft fatal second act. At the final fall of the curtain the expressions from the more demonstrative section of the audience were not altogether friendly. There were loud and prolonged calls for the author, and the pit and gallery becoming uproarious, the author and composer ultimately appeared, whereupon the strong indications of disfavour were painfully emphasised.

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENTS.

There are numbers of attractive features in the bill of the Paragon, one of the best of the metropolitan variety theatres. The side-splitting pantomime, "A Trip to the Continent," has brought the members of the Boisset troupe adequate reward for their well-conceived antics in this merry bagatelle, while the terminus and boat scenes have been seen to every advantage on this roomy stage. "The Fair Equestrian," in which Miss Cora Stuart disports with her wonted vivacity, is also well received here; and other items of the sketch order have been arranged by Mr. Tom White and his Arabs and Mr. E. C. Dunbar. Miss Katie Lawrence, Mr. Eugene Stratton, and Miss Lizzie Howard are also of the company.——Two performances a night are henceforth to be given at the Eastern Empire, the programme being framed by Mr. F. Law, who anticipates the best results from this experiment.——Mr. Will Riley has arranged for the appearance of Miss Violet Cameron at the Cambridge next week. A sensational item of the programme here is that contrived by the Milons, a trio of strong men who perform some wonderful feats with their teeth. ——Mr. Paul Martinetti's pantomime of "The Night Attack" continues to excite enthusiasm at the Canterbury, and will probably have a very long run.——Mr. G. W. Moore is about to effect considerable improvements in the lighting and decoration of the Washington.——A boxing bout, with Mr. Peter Jackson as the central figure, has this week increased the attendance at the Queen's, and for the ensuing week the management announce a similar display by Messrs. Jem Mace and Dick Burge.——Boxing will also be fostered at the Royal Albert, where there will next week appear the redoubtable Frank Craig, the Coffee Cooler. This pugilist is also a musician and a clever coon dancer.——"The Last Grip," a spectacular monologue sketch, will be produced at the South London Palace, on Monday, by Mr. George Leyton.——Mr. Brien M'Cullough, Mrs. E. Bennett, and Company, commence a short engagement at the Royal Standard next week, appearing in "A Daughter of Eve."

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

There has been no lack of concerts during the last few days, the list of musical events for the week numbering just upon a score. The programmes have been as varied as numerous, ranging from performances of "The Creation" and "The Messiah," by the National Sunday League Musical Society, to a "nicht wi' Burns," in celebration of the birthday of the immortal Scotch poet. Then there have been the "Pops" to demand attention, also ballad and orchestral concerts, as well as programmes arranged in the cause of charity. The most interesting feature of the fifth of Mr. Henschel's symphony concerts was the appearance of M. Louis Diémer, the famous French pianist, who played in Saint Saen's splendid concerto in C minor with combined delicacy and brilliancy. As solos, M. Diémer gave three works, varied in character, and differing greatly in value, Chopin's nocturne in B major, op 62, Liszt's cheap Hungarian rhapsody, and a "Fileuse" by Stojowski. These pieces were rendered with rare ability, and the orchestral forces were admirable in compositions by Brahms, Mozart, and Wagner.——Many patronised the ballad concert at the same hall (the Queen's), drawn thither, no doubt, by the Sullivanesque character of the programme. Every singer contributed some well-known solo from one or the other of our popular composer's much-loved comic operas, or gave renderings of individual songs written by Sir A. Sullivan. Amongst the artists were Miss E. Florence, Miss Dale, Miss Rosa Green, and Messrs. J. Robertson, Norman Salmond, Edward Lloyd, and Plunket Greene. The afternoon was an enjoyable one, for a regular feast of sparkling melody was provided. ——Miss Annie C. Muirhead has succeeded in awakening the interest of the young in her concerts for children at the Albert Hall, the third series of which have commenced. Classical music fails to appeal to many because of ignorance of how to appreciate it and it is satisfactory to note that there is a good sprinkling of adults at Miss Muirhead's concerts. The explanatory remarks and instructive comments which preceded the different items served to make much more interesting the performance of such pieces as Haydn's string quartet in D minor, the "Cat's" fugue of Scarlatti and the Rondo from Mozart's Sonata in F for pianoforte and violin. Mrs. Hutchinson sang songs by Handel and Bach.——Several favourites took part in the Burns' concert at the St. James's Hall, and our friends from over the border were regaled with a real Scotch evening. Part songs were well given by the select Scottish choir, whose native pronunciation added to the charm of the music. At the "Pops" the first item was Smetana's curiously written but eminently affective string quartet in F minor, and the pianist was Mdlle. Eibenschuts, one of the many performers on the keyboard who just stand below the greatest masters of the instrument. She played Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata with commanding ability, and Madame Bertha Moore, who was the vocalist charmed all in Liszt's "Know'st thou the land," and Henschel's "Hush thee, my babie," a delicate song daintily rendered.

The production of Sudermann's play of "Die Ehre," announced to be given by the German company at the Royalty on the 19th inst., was barred at the last moment by a threat of legal injunction from the representatives of Mr. Augustin Daly, who claims to have acquired the English acting rights of the piece.——The annual dinner of the Playgoers' Club will take place at the Criterion Restaurant next Sunday, with its president, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, in the chair.——Miss Cissy Loftus (Mrs. Huntly M'Carthy), has just appeared at a New York music hall, giving her quaint imitations of Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Eugene Stratton, Mdlle. Yvette Guilbert, Miss May Yohe, and Mdme. Sara Bernhardt. These mimetic humours were greeted with applause.——The Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, is to be turned into a music hall. The intention is, however, opposed by the local purity mongers.——Miss Winifred Emery is unhappily still suffering from the attack of typhoid which followed immediately upon her recovery from influenza. —— Parts in "An Artist's Model," to follow the German comic opera at Daly's, will be taken by Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Hetty Hamer (the Model), Miss Letty Lind, and Miss Lottie Venne, with Mr. Hayden Coffin and Mr. Blakeley.——"Candida" is the title of a new play by Mr. Bernard Shaw, shortly to be seen at a West-end theatre. —— Sir Edward Lawson will preside at the next annual dinner of the Theatrical Fund, at the Metropole Hotel, on May 23.——The Royal Aquarium management announces a list of novelties for next week. On Tuesday next the third annual Yachting Exhibition will open on a scale far larger than on any previous occasion. On Friday, Feb. 1, Mr. Morritt has undertaken to put a human being into a trance which he guarantees will last seven days. A representation of a gold mine of the '40's, which comes from the Chicago Exhibition, will be added to the general attractions, and a life-size automaton which sings may also be seen.——Next week the last performances will be given of "Little Boy Blue" at the West London, the regular season of drama, farce, and varieties beginning on Monday, Feb. 4. The last matinée of Messrs. Bailey and Oliver's pantomime take place to-morrow (Monday). —— Mr. William Morton has lately presented a revised version of the pantomime of "Blue Beard" at the Greenwich Theatre, which has been well attended since the production of the Christmas annual.——The Standard Theatre pantomime, "Aladdin," continues to attract crowded audiences, and the booking is the largest ever known in the annals of the theatre.——The Mohawk Minstrels announce that Mr. William Francis's annual benefit will take place at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Feb. 14.

RAMSGATE AND THE REVISION OF FARES.

A meeting convened by the Mayor of Ramsgate was held at the Town Hall to consider the recent alteration in the railway fares as affecting the town and the Isle of Thanet generally. The Mayor took the chair, and was supported by a large number of influential gentlemen and tradesmen. The chief topics discussed were what would be the effect of the increased fares on the trade and prosperity of Ramsgate, and the general opinion was that they would be highly detrimental to both, and that an organised opposition was an absolute necessity. A resolution was passed calling on the companies to give, if not a return to the old fares, an equivalent for the increase—a quicker and a better service, and more modern and commodious third-class carriages. A resolution to this effect was passed unanimously, and it was arranged that a deputation should wait on the two companies.

ALLEGED ADVERTISING FRAUDS.

A well-dressed man, who when arrested refused to give either name or address, was charged at North London with having in his possession a double-barrelled breach-loading gun and a black leather Gladstone bag, supposed stolen or unlawfully obtained. — Det.-Sergt. Targett, of the Y Division, said Det-Eason, who had watched and apprehended the prisoner, was at the sessions, but he (witness) knew sufficient of the case to justify him in asking for a remand. Prisoner had taken a room at Mayton-street, Holloway, and described himself as an architect and surveyor, but he had not resided there, though letters and goods had come for him at that address. The letters were addressed both to "Frank John Nicholson" and "Frank J. Harrison," architect and surveyor, Mayton-street, Holloway, and had reference to articles which had been advertised for sale or exchange. There were complaints in two of the letters as to want of promptitude on the part of Nicholson or Harrison. — Mr. Lane (to the prisoner): What have you to say?—The Prisoner: I have robbed nobody. I have done nothing against the law. The gun was sent to me on approval. — Mr. Lane: And the bag? — Prisoner: That is my own property.—Mr. Lane: Who sent you the gun?—The Prisoner: I can't remember. — Mr. Lane: You refused your address.—The Prisoner: Not exactly.—Det. Targett: He did refuse, and from information to hand I press for the remand in order to bring witnesses from the country. There is an allegation that he had people's goods and never sent what he had offered in exchange. We only found out his address from papers he had in his pocket.—Mr. Lane: Do you think there will be other charges against the prisoner? The Detective: Yes. —The Prisoner: I should like to say this, that four or five things sent to me on approval from different people ——.—Mr. Lane: You hadn't better say anything more now.—Remanded for a week.

SMART ADVERTISING.

Albert Edward Lycett, carrying on business as a tea dealer in Hanley, was summoned for keeping a lottery. An inspector of police proved that he bought a quarter of a pound of tea from the defendant, for which he paid 6d. He received the tea in a wrapper, which said that Lycett and Co. gave £10 to every customer.—Mr Harold Wright, in ordering defendant to pay a fine of £25 and £7 13s. costs, said that it was advertised that any customer who came to the shop would receive a bond of the value of £10, and that that bond would be redeemed when 120,000 boxes of 100lb. of tea each had been sold. Suppose that Mr. Lycett had 1,000 customers per day, and that continued through the whole year, it would take 150 years to sell all the tea. Suppose all the tea were sold Mr. Lycett would become indebted for an amount equal to about half the national debt.

An exceptionally well attended gathering of the members and their friends of the Botolph Cricket Club (Messrs. J. R. Bousfield and Co.), assembled in the large hall at Winchester House on Thursday night, F. G. Burmester, Esq., C.C. (President) in the chair. Messrs. Davies, Bob Rae, Bolingbroke, and others successfully took part in the programme. A word of praise is due to the stewards for the good organisation. The singing of the national anthem concluded the evening.

NEW REGULATIONS ABOUT EXECUTIONS.

The Commissioners of Prisons have issued minute instructions for the guidance of the governors of prisons respecting the carrying out of capital punishment. The instructions are to the effect that the assistant to the executioner is to be allowed reasonable travelling expenses, lodgings in the prison, and a fee of £2 2s.; that a newspaper report of the trial of a man sentenced to death is to be sent direct to the Secretary of State; that the governor may admit to the prison, in order to be present at the execution, providing an order to that effect be obtained from the visiting justices, in addition to persons required or entitled to be present, any of the relatives of the condemned prisoner; that the governor of the prison is not to allow a cast to be taken of the head of the person executed; and that the governor is to give a certificate as to the way the execution was carried out.

SHIPMASTERS' SOCIETY.

Before a meeting of this society, held on Monday at Fishmongers' Hall, Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., presiding, Dr. A. M. Cato read a paper on "'First Aid' to Sailors." In the course of his remarks he alluded to the St. John Ambulance Association's method of teaching "first aid to the injured," the facilities now offered for acquiring the knowledge, and the seaman's and emigrant's special necessity for possessing it. He stated that the need for some instruction such as that derived from the first aid course instituted by the various ambulance associations was to his own knowledge widely felt among seafaring men, and the value of such a course appeared indisputable, not only from the frequency of a certain class of accidents at sea, but also from another cause, by which its value would be greatly enhanced and the difficulties, often felt, of imparting knowledge on a subject of such a technical character greatly lessened; this was the natural aptitude and instinctive knowledge of the best methods of managing sick people generally possessed by sailors. The formation of ambulance classes on board vessels whose passages exceed a fortnight, for their passengers and crews, was also suggested. The chairman, Sir Herbert Perrott, and other gentlemen took part in the discussion, and the value of the paper and the importance of its suggestions were generally recognised.

TROUBLE WITH THE VESTRY.

At West London, Mr. Rose delivered judgment in a summons in which the Fulham Vestry sought to recover the sum of £404 from the Metropolitan District Railway, it being the apportioned expenses for making a new street at the south-eastern end of Mornington-avenue and adjoining West Kensington Station. There were other summonses against owners of property which abutted on the road, amongst them being Mr. William Whiteley, of Westbourne-grove.—Mr. Blanco White stated that the road, which had not any particular name, abutted on the railway, but had been a public highway from time immemorial. He admitted that the consent of the County Council had not been obtained to make up the road, but he contended that it was not required.—Mr. Munroe, for the railway company, said the council would not give consent because the road was not of the uniform width of 40ft. The vestry should have proceeded under the Act of 1890 for temporary repairs, as the road at present was not of any use to the railway, and in that case the company would have been exempted. He also contended that the apportionment was bad, as the vestry had allowed reductions in some cases and not on the whole line.—Mr. Rose said he had seen the place, which had the appearance of a back lane, but he thought the vestry could deal with it as a new street from the fact of its having been extended. He decided in favour of the vestry.—The vestry had power to deal with particular owners, and not with owners as a class. He made an order for the amount.—Mr. Munroe asked for a case, which was granted.—The other summonses were adjourned *sine die*.

WEST-END STABBING OUTRAGE.

BLACK RECORD OF THE ACCUSED.

Charles Bacon, 46, a sign writer, living in Stephen-street, Tottenham Court-road, was charged on remand, before Mr. Hannay, at Marlborough-street, with feloniously cutting Mrs. Vincent Hook by stabbing her in the back with a knife.—Prosecutrix was now well enough to attend and give evidence. She deposed that she was a hospital nurse, and lived in George-street, Hanover-square. While crossing Oxford-street with a friend on Jan. 8 she received a terrific blow in the back. Though partly stunned by the force of the blow, she was aware that she had been stabbed and not merely struck. Being anxious to escape from the crowd and return home in order to have the wound attended to, she refused to give the man into custody. She had not yet recovered from the effects of the wound.—Dr. R. Tweed, of Upper Brook-street, said that on the evening in question he examined the prosecutrix, and found she had a crescent shaped wound two inches long in her back, about two inches on the left hand side of the spine. It was a clean incised wound about two inches deep. It did not puncture the lung owing to the thick muscles of the back, but had the wound been inflicted a little further away from the spine the lung would undoubtedly have been penetrated. He dressed the wound, from which there was a good deal of hemorrhage, and ordered the prosecutrix to go to bed. He had examined the pocket-knife produced, and was of opinion that the wound could have been inflicted with it. He believed the blade must have been driven into Mrs. Hook's back up to the hilt, and then turned round while in her flesh. In this way he accounted for the crescent shape of the cut.—Mr. Hannay (looking at the knife): I see, doctor, the point of the blade is slightly bent.—Dr. Tweed: I don't think it was bent when the wound was inflicted.—The Prisoner: It was bent before. —Det.-sergt. Moore, D Division, said the accused had been convicted seven times for assaults. On one occasion he stabbed a lady in the face, and on another took up a child and dashed it to the ground.—Prisoner: It was not a lady I did it to, but a disorderly woman.—In reply to the usual caution from the bench, Bacon exclaimed, "I have nothing to say. It seems to me about correct as far as I can make out."—Committed for trial.

INSANE.

At Lambeth, Charles H. P. Lawrence, 39, labourer, was charged, on remand, on his own confession, with the murder of his daughter. Prisoner gave himself up to the police and made a statement to the effect that, on Monday, the 14th inst., he was staying at a house at Reading, and there murdered his daughter by placing her in a cistern and holding her head under the water until she was dead. A report was now received from the prison surgeon, certifying the prisoner to be insane.—Inspector Fleming said the man's statement turned out to be untrue from beginning to end. —Mr. Hopkins discharged the prisoner, and directed that he should be taken to the infirmary.

SIR J. GORST ON LABOUR.

Speaking at a large Conservative gathering held at the Trinity Hall, Stratford, E., in support of the candidature of Mr. Ernest Gray, for the representation of North West Ham, Sir John Gorst, M.P., said that for the employed workmen they wanted a measure which would at once put a stop to trade disputes which ended in strikes and lock-outs, and for the unemployed workmen they wanted an immediate inquiry into the cause of unemployment, and the establishment of some radical mode of treating this most important question. (Cheers.) With regard to the unemployed question, he admitted that it was a very difficult problem to solve, but one thing which might mitigate the evil would be the establishment of a central labour bureau, or National Clearing House. (Hear, hear.) This was only a palliative, however, and like the establishment of relief works, would never effect a permanent cure. (Hear, hear.) No one could deny that the evil was in their midst, and that work must be found for the thousands of unemployed. He believed that one great remedy would be the transference of all unemployed men from the large cities to the country, where they could be put in agricultural schools, and afterwards placed to work on land of their own, or on land in the tilling of which they had a personal interest. (Cheers.)

POLICE RAID.

At Leeds, Julius Fisher, the keeper of a restaurant, in Temple-street, was charged with keeping a common gaming-house. Ten persons were found on the premises, mostly Jewish tailors. The men were also charged with frequenting the house. Owing to complaints the police had watched the house, and at midnight on the 19th inst. made a raid upon it.—Defendants were remanded, bail being allowed.

ABOUT A FOWL.

At North London, Margaret Guring, 34, married, of Campbell-road, Holloway, was charged with stealing a fowl, value 2s 6d., from outside the shop of Mr. W. T. Rose, poulterer, of Station-road, Finsbury Park. A clergyman saw prisoner take the fowl and walk off with it, when prosecutor followed her and asked for the bird. She denied having it, but eventually threw it at him and ran away. P.C. 40 Y followed her, and she ran through the open door of a laundry and out to the back. She got over the garden wall notwithstanding that she had a child in her arms, and dropped down on the other side, a distance of eight feet. Some time afterwards it was found that the child's arm was broken.—Prisoner now declared that she did not steal the fowl, but purchased it at Chapel-street, Islington, and all she did was to pause at the prosecutor's shop to compare his prices with what she had given for her fowl.—The gaoler said the prisoner had been several times charged with similar offences. —Prisoner: Since which I have given up all my bad companions.—Mr. Lane said he must have further proof of the theft of the fowl in question, though he had some doubt as to her statement.—Remanded.

A CHESTER ROMANCE.

At Chester, Joseph Henry Emerson, of that city, was charged by John Weston with committing perjury in an affidavit for a license of marriage between himself and Sarah Elizabeth Weston, before Archdeacon Barber, Principal Surrogate.—Mr. Brassey, for the prosecutor, said his client had a daughter aged 18, who assisted him in his business as a publican. Prisoner, who had visited the house, was requested to keep away. He, however, sought to secure a marriage license, declaring his age to be 22 and Miss Weston's the same, knowing it to be a falsehood and perjury. Prosecutor discovered this, and had Emerson arrested. —Mr. Weston produced a certificate showing that his daughter was aged 18.—Archdeacon Barber said he recognised the prisoner, who came on the 17th and signed the affidavit produced. He took the oath, and said it was correct.—James Williams said prisoner showed him the certificate. He said he could not get a license by saying she was 19, so he swore she was 22.—Prisoner was remanded. —Mr. Caldecutt, for prisoner, said the parties could not be married, as the young lady was imprisoned and locked up at home.—The magistrates, however, granted bail only on the license being given up.

CURIOUS ACTION.

At the Birmingham County Court an interesting action respecting the housing of dead bodies was heard by Mr. John Amphlett, deputy judge, and a jury. The case was brought by Mary Ann Wilkinson, of the Lamp Tavern, Handsworth, against P.S. Hill to recover £15 damages for depositing the dead body of a woman in the club-room without plaintiff's consent. It was stated that the woman died suddenly in the public-house, and that the body was decently laid out in an outhouse, but that subsequently the defendant insisted upon the removal of the body to the club-room.—The defence was that the plaintiff suggested the removal or consented to it, but this was denied.—It was stated that there was no law to compel publicans to receive bodies, and that if there was no mortuary or proper place to take them to they should, according to the law, be taken to the house of the churchwarden of the parish.—The jury gave a verdict for the amount claimed.

PAYMENT OF CORONER'S JURIES.

At the conclusion of an inquest at Shoreditch, the foreman of the jury, addressing Coroner Westcott, asked if there was any grant for refreshments. The late coroner, Dr. Macdonald, had said that possibly in about three years something might be done in this direction, and also that probably jurymen would be paid.—The Coroner: I am afraid the County Council are more against it than ever.—The Foreman: Should the Home Secretary make inquiries would you give a favourable expression on the matter?—The Coroner: What do you think you ought to have?—The Foreman: Many of us have to lose half a day's work, and we ought to be recompensed in proportion.—A Jurryman: I have lost 6s. by coming here to-day; it is a great hardship on working men, who have wives and children to support.—Another Juror: I had to go to Bermondsey specially before coming here to tell my master where I was, or he might have thought that I was on the drink. (Laughter).—The Foreman: Could you not arrange, Mr. Coroner, to hold your inquests at night? It would be a very great boon to the working classes. (Hear, hear).—The Coroner: I have no objection, but the commissioner of police would not let me have his officers.—A Juror: Perhaps when they are under the County Council they will. (Laughter).—The Coroner: I think the suggestion of making the number of jurymen five instead of 12 a good one. You would not be called upon so often then. The objection to paid jurymen is that you may get "professional loafers," and then justice might not be done.—The Foreman: There requires some alteration at any rate. —The Coroner: I sympathise with you, but must wish you "Good morning."

Count Kato, the new Japanese Minister to England, arrived in London on Wednesday.

LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

The Duke of Westminster has made a return of 10 per cent. upon the half year's rent of his Halkin Estate, in Flintshire.

The Hartlepool coble Jane and Harriet was run down off the TeesBallast Buoy by a steamer. Thomas Watt, pilot, Hartlepool, was drowned.

The vessel Olive, which went ashore at Westhey Bridport, is breaking up. A man named Robert Steele, who tried to get on board, was drowned.

At Bristol William Alway, an ex-soldier, was remanded on a charge of attempting to commit suicide by cutting his throat at a lodging-house.

A collision occurred at Taxenbach, near Salsburg, between a passenger and a goods train, by which several people were badly hurt.

British members of the Anglo-French Commission for the demarcation of a Buffer State on the Siamese boundary are at Mongsang.

The traffic receipts of the Suez Canal on Friday amounted to 310,000fr., against 150,000fr. on the corresponding day of last year.

A box filled up with some explosive was found in front of the Falco Palace, Milan, and soon after being taken to the police station it exploded. No one was hurt.

In political circles in Constantinople no credence is attached to the rumour that the Grand Vizier will be replaced by Djellaledin Pasha.

The grand jury at Syracuse, N.Y., on Saturday indicted Robert Fitzsimmons, a well-known pugilist, for manslaughter in the first degree for killing Con Riordan during a sparring match on Nov. 17 last.

It has at last been decided by the Reichstag Building Committee that the inscription, "To the German Empire" shall be placed on the façade of the new Imperial Parliament House.

At Rodez (Aveyron) considerable damage was done to the rolling stock and the permanent way by a goods train going off the line. Four trucks were completely destroyed and a bridge seriously damaged.

The result of the Newcastle School Board election was declared on Saturday as follows:—Five Churchmen, two Catholics, four Progressives or Unsectarians, and four Independents.

The friendly reference to Portugal made by Mr. Rhodes in his speech at the annual meeting of the British South Africa Company, has, Reuter says, produced an excellent impression in Lisbon.

At Birmingham P.C. Nicholls was remanded on a charge of malicious perjury. While a case was proceeding Nicholls stole out of court, purchased a note-book, and wrote therein evidence which he gave as having been taken months before.

At Hastings, Thomas Foster was committed for trial charged with attempting to murder Jane Smith, a cook, by cutting her throat with a razor. The girl, although terribly injured, is stated to be progressing favourably.

At Doncaster, Arthur Richards, 12, was charged with stealing 2s. from a boy aged five. The latter met prisoner, who demanded a purse the child was carrying, opened it, extracted the money, and decamped. He was bound over.

At Oldham, Edward Houghton, whilst calling up a hoist in a cotton mill, was caught by the descending hoist, a number of spikes protecting a door leading into one of the rooms being forced into the poor lad's head, which was torn from the body.

It is understood that the Spanish Chamber will adopt the bill authorising the erection of a telegraph wire between Cadiz and the French frontier, with the object of facilitating telegraph communication with Senegal and South America.

Reuter says the two persons arrested in Paris in connection with the case of the Société Niçoise de Transports Maritimes, are M. Grisson, formerly a money-dealer, and M. Quinto, secretary to M. Réné Gautier, Deputy for the Charente.

At Carmarthen Assizes, Hannah Watson, single, of Whitby, Yorkshire, was indicted for the murder of her illegitimate child, born at Llanelly. Prisoner was seized with a fit when before the quarter sessions in November, and her case aroused considerable sympathy. She was acquitted.

Two youths named Albert Coley and Josiah Coley were remanded on Saturday at Halesowen on a charge of committing an impudent robbery at the Forge Inn. A policeman concealed himself in an outhouse and pounced upon the lads as they had loaded themselves with various articles they had picked up.

At Suffolk Assizes, before Justice Matthew, Martha Hammond, 18, was acquitted of the wilful murder of her child, whose father she alleged was a London policeman, named Templeman. She left Plomesgate Workhouse with the baby, and two months afterwards its body was found in a wood.

The members of the new Hungarian Cabinet presented themselves to the Chamber of Deputies. Baron Banffy, the Premier, delivered a speech explaining the Ministerial programme. He said that the Government would conduct the affairs of the country on a liberal basis of a Hungarian national tendency.

Speaking at a meeting of the Oldham Liberal Women's Association, Sir John Hibbert, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, referred to the strong feeling which he said existed with respect to the obstruction of important measures by the House of Lords. It was useless to extend the suffrage if what they voted for was put on one side by an irresponsible body.

Insp. Given, of Staffordshire police, arrested at Dudley on Saturday a postman named Burgin for having unlawfully kept in his possession a number of letters. In consequence of complaints having been made of letters not being delivered at Oldhill, Burgin's lodgings were searched, and upward of 200 letters were found which should have been delivered.

At Whittington Moor, Chesterfield, on Saturday, an inquest was held on the bodies of Edward Bennett and Peter Thompson, colliery labourers, who, while passing between some waggons which were being shunted, were caught between the buffers. Bennett was killed on the spot, Thompson dying almost immediately. Verdict, accidental death.

A very successful complimentary supper and smoking concert was given last week at the Falcon Hotel, Gough-square, Fleet-street, by the employés of Mr. Trounce, 10, Gough-square, to Mr. Cashard. A most enjoyable evening was spent, under the chairmanship of Mr. Banks, "Islington Gazette."

It has been reported to the Croydon police that Mr. Justice Wallis, jeweller, of 15, Pitlake-bridge, Croydon, has been missing from his home since last Thursday week. He was wearing a black coat and vest, light trousers, and a blue serge cap at the time of his disappearance. He is 45 years of age, 5ft. 10in. in height, and has fair hair and a brown moustache.

LORD ROSEBERY AND THE DISSOLUTION.

SPEECH AT CARDIFF.

IMPORTANT PRONOUNCEMENT.

On Saturday, Lord Rosebery attended as principal guest at a breakfast party given in the Cardiff Town Hall by Mr. Thomas Ellis, chief Government whip, to the Liberal agents and the principal officers of the National Liberal Federation. Mr. Ellis presided, and amongst those present, in addition to the Prime Minister, were Dr. Spence Watson, president of the Federation; Mr. Harris, of Birmingham (treasurer); Sir Edward Russell, Mr. A. Bilson, M.P.; Mr. Bird, chairman of the Cardiff Liberal Association; Mr. E. Evans, jun., of Liverpool (chairman of the committee); Mr. Allard, secretary of the Home Counties Branch of the Federation; Mr. Deeley, of the Liberal Central Office, &c.

The Chairman said it afforded him great pleasure at the end of a remarkable series of political gatherings to welcome the Liberal agents, and he was especially proud to have that opportunity of bringing Mr. Gladstone's successor in the leadership of the Liberal party face to face with those upon whom so much responsibility rested for the success of Liberalism. (Cheers.)

LORD ROSEBERY'S SPEECH.

Lord Rosebery, in responding, said:—Mr. Ellis, I should have been grateful if you had explained to the company that I cannot speak for more than two or three minutes. The essence of the Liberal party does not lie in Ministers or even in whips, but it lies in the sympathetic hearty cordial union of Liberalism throughout the country. (Hear, hear.) One may almost tell when Liberalism is predestined to defeat at the polls by the tone of criticism and half-heartedness which is observable in certain quarters. I observe nothing of that kind now—("Hear, hear," and cheers)—but I would venture to remind you that a very great responsibility lies on the organisers in the country. You well remember that a great schism took place in the Liberal party in 1886, a schism under which the Liberal party, ruled for some years afterwards by the genius of our leader, and by the care and skill of his lieutenants both in and out of Parliament. The edifice of Liberalism had been laboriously reconstructed until it led to that victory at the polls of 1892, a victory not so sweeping or so consummate as some Liberal victories that we can remember, but which, in view of the circumstances of 1886, was, in my opinion, not less remarkable. (Hear, hear.) Well, you have it in your power either to increase the scope and solidity of that edifice, or you have it equally in your power, by apathy and half-heartedness, to shatter for all time perhaps what has been so laboriously built up. I do not disguise from you my impression that if Liberalism were to receive a severe blow at the next election it might be a blow from which it might be more difficult to recover than from former defeats if only for the absence of that stimulating enthusiasm of genius which so pre-eminently characterised Mr. Gladstone. Well, I say that in the nature of

A WARNING.

What has been laboriously built up do not lightly destroy. Let us work together for the preservation of those principles and the maintenance of those principles that we have always advocated. Remember, if some of you think that this or that article of the Liberal programme ought to have more prominence than it has, and are inclined on that account to retire to your tents, that the result of such action on the part of many Liberals will produce a predominance of influence hostile to every item in the Liberal programme. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, it is difficult to see what any section of the Liberal party can gain by any such abstinence or any such apathy as that which I have indicated. Well, gentlemen, they talk a great deal of a general election. I have never set up for a political prophet, and I will wait for some quarter of a century more before I attempt anything of the kind—(a laugh)—but if I were to attempt the task I should say that I see no immediate probability of a general election (Loud cheers.) It is sometimes, in fact very frequently, said by our opponents and critics that our majority in the House of Commons is small, but anyhow the remark forces itself upon one that it is a majority. (Laughter and "Hear, hear.") Whatever may be the merits of that great party which is opposed to us—and I am sure we hear enough of their merits and their talents and their virtues—(a laugh)—there is one merit they do not possess in the slightest degree, and that is that of a majority in the House of Commons. (Laughter and cheers.) Let me assure you that even if they obtain what they have almost got, unanimity in the House of Lords, it will not compensate them for the lack and deficiency I have indicated. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, I say this if we have a majority in the House of Commons, and we have, in my opinion,

A GOOD WORKING MAJORITY,

we can only lose that majority in one way, and that is by our friends turning their weapons against us. I don't think they will turn their weapons against us. (Hear, hear.) We have always had a good deal of talk and murmur and discontent in the Liberal camp from people who think we either go too fast or not fast enough, but that discontent usually is a surface discontent, and does not lead its utterers into the lobby opposite to the Liberal party. I have another reason for thinking that they will not turn their weapons against us, even those who may be most discontented, and it is this, that the country will judge hardly—that Liberalism throughout the country will judge severely—those who, having been returned to support the Liberal Government, take any means to turn that Liberal Government out. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) I will say no more on that topic, or on any other topic, but I will bid you be of good cheer, because the Government is of good cheer. ("Hear, hear.") The Government is earnest. The Government is determined. (Cheers.) If it receives the support of its friends in the country and of its friends in the House of Commons I believe it has a long spell of good work before it. (Cheers.)

Dr. Spence Watson then addressed the meeting, and afterwards, on the motion of Mr. Harris, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Ellis, who briefly responded. — The company then dispersed.

SPEECH TO YOUNG WALES.

The Premier, accompanied by Mr. T. Ellis and Mr. Robert Bird, afterwards drove to the University College, where a large company of ladies and gentlemen had assembled to meet him. He was received at the entrance to the college by Lord Aberdare. Having inspected the college buildings, his lordship was conducted to the theatre, which was crowded with a large and enthusiastic audience. Here an address of welcome was read on behalf of the students.

Lord Rosebery, who was greeted with prolonged cheering, after expressing great gratification at receiving the address, went on to say: I am not going to talk politics to you now, and I do not know that even then I should have much to say: but what I have to say I could say in a sentence. I do not care what your politics are, or may be, provided they are guided by one sole consideration — grow up, I beseech you, under the auspices of this young Wales of which you speak, and of this university which embodies so much of the aspirations of young Wales. (Cheers.) Grow up I beseech you, to love your country. (Loud cheers.) If you make patriotism a honest, real, heartfelt patriotism, true enthusiasm for what you believe in your heart and in your conscience will serve your country. If you grow up in that faith and with that impulse it little matters to what political party you attach yourself, because in that way you will have arrived at a true and earnest conception of duty, and, after all, it is on its citizens and subjects who are animated by that purpose and belief that the prosperity of the Empire must ultimately rest. (Loud cheers.)

Lord Rosebery left Cardiff shortly after noon and returned to London. Later he left for the Durdans, Epsom.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS.

Last week at the Royal Institute Mr. Lewis F. Day delivered a lecture on stained glass windows and painted glass from the point of view of art and craftsmanship. In the course of his remarks he said the industry of glass making was held to be 5,000 or 6,000 years old, and some even asserted that it started from the making of the Tower of Babel, and that when the fire came down from heaven it fused some of the bricks into glass. The lecturer dealt, by means of lantern slides, with the stained glass of the 13th and 17th centuries, remarking that in the earlier century the artist was merely a glazier who put together various pieces of coloured glass, just as one would put in order the blocks of a puzzle. The monster jewels read of in history were no doubt the work of the glazier and not of the jeweller.

LONDON COFFEE CARGOES.

A report has been made by the Trieste Exchange Committee to the Chamber of Commerce upon the result of its enquiry into the cause of the deficiencies repeatedly discovered in cargoes of coffee from London while in transit here. The report says that the shortages occur, not in the Trieste warehouses, but at the different places of re-loading between the ports of origin and London. The Chamber has decided to communicate the result of its investigation to the Ministry of Commerce and to the Austro-Hungarian Consulate General in London, at the same time requesting the latter to give the matter the widest possible publicity in England.

ACCIDENT ON THE EMBANKMENT.

A young man named John Williams, who resides in Tachbrook-street, Pimlico, was turning hurriedly out of a street on Saturday on to the embankment between Vauxhall and Chelsea Bridges, when he was knocked down by a private brougham, the wheels of which passed over his left arm. He sustained a compound fracture and was conveyed to the hospital. The driver of the brougham in endeavouring to stop the vehicle, lost his balance and fell upon the back of the horse, which, becoming affrighted, bolted, but was stopped without further damage being done.

REFORMING THE RAILWAYS.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. WATSON.

Something has been heard recently about reforming the railways and grafting on to a British institution what at the Antipodes has been something like a Colonial experiment. To learn how certain changes advocated would benefit the public at large, a "People" representative interviewed Mr. Watson, secretary of the Railway Reform Association. It is largely due to Mr. Watson and those who act with him that better carriages have been built and lower fares charged. "The primary object of the association," explained Mr. Watson, "is the purchase of all railways in Great Britain and Ireland by the State. At present our railway companies are great monopolists. For instance, out of 6,000 stations in the United Kingdom at only one-fourth of them do competing lines meet, so as to 4,500 stations there is a complete monopoly, and the companies charge what they please within their powers. It is felt by us that these charges for passengers and goods should undergo a change, and the sooner the better. The scheme of nationalisation if adopted would, we estimate, save the country over £40,000,000 a year, and would enable those engaged in commercial pursuits, with a lower rate of carriage to pay, more successfully to compete with foreign nations."—"How do you propose to bring about this gigantic change?" "We advocate the amalgamation of the different railway companies in Great Britain, which we would have governed by a central board of control in London, with a similar one in Dublin for Irish railways. We should then have a central railway station in London, whereby the whole of the different systems would be united, enabling passengers to travel east to west, north to south, and vice versa, with only one change of carriage, so that the present method of driving from one company's station to another would be avoided. The association further desires the entire re-arrangement of railway traffic, and third-class season tickets are asked for at greatly reduced and uniform fares. The Government or even the companies could well afford to reduce the Parliamentary fare to ½d. per mile." Mr. Watson thinks there is still great room for improved accommodation for travellers, and that the number of passenger trains should be considerably increased, while for the present ticket system should be substituted Government coupons, available on all railways at any date. In many ways he feels sure the State purchase would benefit all classes both by relieving taxation and at the same time reducing charges for necessaries. "Fortunately," he added, "the feeling in favour of nationalisation is steadily growing, especially in the north, and it will be a matter early brought before the attention of Parliament. Of considerable interest to the agricultural population will be the proposed reduction in the present exorbitant charges for the conveyance of live stock, and the increasing of the carrying capacity of freight trains." As an instance of the inequality of railway charges Mr. Watson pointed out that imported fresh meat from Southampton to London, including dock charges and cartage, was 17s. 6d. per ton; while from Botley, which is one mile nearer London than Southampton, the charge is 31s. 8d.—"Would not the Government be overtaxed with so much to look after?" "Continental experience has taught us that such would not be the case. In Belgium and Germany, where railways are under the control of the State, everything goes on smoothly, and is well managed. In Prussia the acquisition of the railways by the State is considered to have protected the agricultural interest, while at the same time supplying cheaper food to the operative classes in the towns. The reduction of the rates in Austria has quadrupled the traffic there. The railways would be under the control of practical railway men such as the present managers, and, moreover, no one unless he had a thorough knowledge of railway work could undertake the position." —"Is not the public opposed to State control?" "Yes, the public always has been, until the public realises the many advantages to be gained. The alternative of State is company control. As in the case of penny postage, the State control system might not pay at first owing to the great reduction, but it soon would. Enormous profits should not be looked for. The State, of course, would purchase the railways at their earning value, and not at their speculative value, which would prove fatal."—"How would the present shareholders be compensated?" "By receiving Government Railway Stock securing them as much as they now make out of their investments. It would simply be a transfer from a fluctuating to a permanently secured stock, and even in this respect would confer a great social benefit by substituting the investor for the mere speculator."—"Would the experiment be generally adopted?" "Not of necessity. A start could be made, say, with Ireland, and by that experience gained, and if successful, the system extended to Great Britain."—"How would State control affect railway employés?" "In all probability the workmen would be considerably better off. There are about 400,000 servants employed on the railways, having, as far as can be estimated, a million persons dependent upon them. Many have to rely upon "tips" received to make much of a living, but that would be abolished, and the servants better paid, which they deserve to be, considering the dangerous nature of their calling. Then as to hours; these would be strictly regulated, and it is to be hoped this would lessen the number of accidents which are caused by excessive hours. Railways are far too important in every way to be left in the hands of a few joint companies, and no real improvement can, in my mind, be effected until they are taken over by the State."

The police are actively engaged in attempting to trace the person or persons who attempted to wreck a train on the Guildford new line between Cobham and Effingham Junction by placing a sleeper on the rails.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNS.

FINCHLEY HARRIERS' SEVEN-AND-A-HALF MILES HANDICAP.

A DEVONSHIRE ATHLETE WINS.

This event was decided at Neasden. All the championship cracks, except F. J. Strange, competed, and showed fine form. The winner turned up in H. Hobbs, a well-known runner at Crediton, in Devonshire. A. Fowles won the old members' prize, and Hainsworth secured the prize for fastest time. Result:

Pos.	Name.	Start. m. s.	H'cp time. m. s.	Net time. m. s.
1.	H. Hobbs	2 50	46 40	49 30
2.	H. Cochrane	3 20	46 45	50 5
3.	J. H. Davenport	4 40	46 51	51 31
4.	E. Bartholomew	3 10	47 3	50 13
5.	H. C. Burrows	3 30	47 30	51 ...
6.	A. T. Newman	3 50	47 31	50 21
7.	F. D. Randall	— 40	47 47	48 27
8.	A. Fowles	5 10	48 5	53 15
9.	J. Daffern	1 50	48 8	49 58
10.	J. R. Hainsworth	scratch	48 10	48 10
11.	G. Buck	... 20	48 11	48 31
12.	G. Lock	4 40	49 24	54 4

WALTHAMSTOW H.

FINE PERFORMANCE BY THE SOUTHERN CHAMPION.

The seven miles handicap of the above club, postponed from the 12th inst. on account of the frost, was decided over an Epping Forest course. The race was chiefly noticeable for the splendid running of the Southern Counties champion, H. Watkins. Starting from scratch in a field of 21, he was only beaten by 5sec by G. A. Witley, to whom he was conceding 3min 50sec start. Watkins' time for the course, which is rather over than under the stipulated distance, was 42min 20sec. Result:—G. A. Witley, 50sec start (handicap time 42min 15sec, net time 46min 5sec), 1; H. Watkins, scratch, (handicap time 42min 20sec, net time 42min 20sec), 2; E. Jones, 2min 50sec (handicap time 42min 35sec, net time 45min 25sec), 3; F. G. Farr, 5min 40sec (handicap time 43min 30sec, net time 49min 10sec), 4; F. Wright, 6min 20sec (handicap time 44min 7sec, net time 51min 47sec), 5; S. Holliday, 6min 20sec (handicap time 44min 12sec, net time 50min 32sec), 6; F. H. Powell, 8min (handicap time 44min 29sec, net time 52min 29sec), 7; E. J. Gutteridge, 6min 5sec (handicap time 44min 40sec, net time 51min 30sec, 8.

FALCON H.—J. H. Jullie, the ex-champion amateur walker, paced the slow pack, and F. H. Stuchbery the fast, over eight miles at South Norwood.

NATIONAL ATHLETIC AND CYCLING CLUB.—A training walk from Harlesden to Pinner was this club's fixture on Saturday. Between 20 and 30 members turned out, and the pace was a good one all the way.

QUEEN'S PARK H.—F. Fitzgerald paced 20 members over the seven and a half miles championship course. All the club cracks who will compete at Wembley Park on Feb. 23 were out, and showed splendid form.

DE LAUNE H.—H. Savidge and F. E. Kemp showed the way to a score of runners, including several visitors, over the three and a half miles course.

ELECTRIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.—Seven miles run at Winchmore Hill. Fifteen turned out, E. J. Samuel showing the way.

KEMPTON H. v. SUNBURY H.—This interclub race was postponed owing to several members of the latter team failing to put in an appearance. A run over the five miles course was substituted in which the Sunbury men present turned out.

WALWORTH H.—A large number of members ran over this club's 10 mile course, in view of the forthcoming club championship. Race home: R. Sivell, 1; C. King, 2.

FINSBURY POLYTECHNIC H.—G. Heath, vice-captain, paced the slow pack, and E. H. Frost, captain, the fast over the eight mile course, in view of the championship next week.

BOROUGH POLYTECHNIC H.—Seven miles handicap at Nunhead:—J. C. J. Vernon, 2min 50sec start, 1; F. J. Cox, 2min 35sec, 2; F. Pearce, 4min 30sec, 3. Won by 15 yards.

EUREKA ATHLETIC CLUB.—The members of the above-named club decided a mile and a half handicap round the Common at Upper Clapton, with the following result:—E. Quigley, 440 yards start, 1; R. F. Richardson, 440, 2; J. E. Dallison, 400, 3; W. Moseley, 330, 4; S. C. King, 30, 5. Won by five yards; 20 yards between second and third. Time, 7min 45sec. Timekeeper, E. Grant, N.H. Judge, A. Nicholls.

ESSEX BEAGLES.—Most of the team men were out at Forest Gate, G. Martin pacing. He finished first.

TEE-TO-TUM A.C.—Under the guidance of H. L. Gibbs, 30 members ran eight miles. An excellent trail was laid by F. Dennis.

MONTAGUE H.—One mile race: E. Lee, 1; R. Durham, 2. Fifteen members had previously run five miles, paced by C. Gray.

ST. PETER'S INSTITUTE H.—Twenty members ran 10 miles, in view of next Saturday's race at that distance. W. Read paced.

WIGMORE H.—One mile race: H. Shuff, 1; G. Findlay, 2. Ten members had previously run seven miles.

NORTH LONDON H.—Ten miles sealed handicap, at Hampstead. Result of scratch race: C. T. Bartlett, 1; T. Bull, 2; H. Malyon, 3. Time, 63min 24sec.

FAIRBRIDGE H.—Seven miles club championship and sealed handicap, at Finsbury Park. Scratch race: H. Page, 1; A. Sutton, 2; A. J. Fawley, 3. Handicap: J. Hibberd, 3min 55sec start, 1; A. J. Fawley, 2min 40sec, 2; G. Olive, 2min 10sec, 3. Winner's net time, 49min 49sec.

MAGPIE H.—One mile race in: C. W. Barton, 1; H. Grindall, 2. Previous to the race in, a dozen members were paced four miles by Mr. Muir.

HERNE HILL H.—Seven-miles handicap at Streatham. Result:—H. Hinton, 4min 30sec start, 1; G. Goodwin, 3min 35sec, 2; A. Lock, 3min 5sec, 3; A. Davall (2min 20sec) did fastest time, viz., 43min 2sec. Winner's time, 46min 45sec.

SOUTH LONDON H.—The Thornton Challenge Cup ten miles scratch race and yacht handicap took place at South Croydon over a heavy course. Result of scratch race: Baker, 63min 23sec, 1; Hibbs, 63min 23 1-5sec, 2; W. H. Sanders, 64min 12sec, 3; Magill, 64min 33sec, 4; J. E. W. Sanders, 64min 43sec, 5; S. Yoxall, 66min 14sec, 6; Gavin, 66min 39sec, 7. Result of handicap: Hibbs, 1min 30sec start, 1; W. Sanders, 1min 40sec, 2; Magill, 1min 30sec, 3; Baker, scratch, 4. Baker and Hibbs were with five yards all the way, Hibbs leading at the half distance by two yards. Baker eventually won, after a desperate finish, by a foot.

HAMPSTEAD H. — Fifteen members of this club covered a distance of 9 miles at Highgate. G. Ashby showed the way to the winning post, being followed by G. Day and H. E. Hill.

UNITY A.C.—In view of the championship fixed for next week 25 members went over a 10 miles course. Result: P. Burling, 1; F. Tandy, 2; G. Mullcock, 3.

LORAINE H.—This club successfully decided their 7 miles championship. There were 25 entries, and 18 starters. A. Mitchell, 5min 15sec start, 1; A. Bloxham, 2min 30sec, 2; H. W. Arle, 2min 15sec, 3; C. Coker, 4min 15sec, 4. J. Wells was the winner of the scratch race.

NORTHERN LIGHTS H.—The usual run of this club did not take place, the course being unfit.

ARCHWAY H.—Ten members of the Archway H. covered eight miles, with a view to the handicap to be decided on Saturday. F. E. Russell paced, but was passed in the race-in by C. Birkett, E. A. Eaton, and W. Hall.

OSNABURGH H.—This club's fixture was abandoned on account of the heavy going.

BOROUGH POLYTECHNIC H.—The event of the Borough Polytechnic was a seven miles' handicap. Result: J. C. J. Vernon, 2min 50sec start, 1; F. J. Cox, 2min 35sec, 2; F. Pearce, 4min 30sec, 3. Won by 15 yards.

STOKE NEWINGTON H.—This club decided a seven miles handicap from their headquarters, Swan, Upper Clapton. There were 33 entries and 22 competitors, E. Reeman being at scratch and completed the distance in the fastest time, viz., 44min 3sec. Starter, timekeeper and Handicapper, C. Jackson; Judges, J. Wiggs, and Francis Howes; Referee, Walter Johnson. Result: G. Tuck, 3min 40sec start, 1; P. Bliss, 3min 10sec, 2; A. J. Welling, 1min 40sec, 3; G. F. Cleveley, 15sec, 4; E. Reeman, scratch, 5; A. W. Dupree, 45sec, 6. Tuck took the lead about two miles from home, and won easily by 50 over yards. Winners net time, 46min 50sec.

VIRTUE'S A.C. v. ALLENBURY'S A.C.—This inter-club race was held at Highgate, the distance covered being five miles. A closely-contested run resulted in a victory for the Allenburys by the narrow margin of 2 points. Scores: Allenbury's, 38; Virtue's, 40. The first four to arrive home were, R. W. Ashby, Allenbury's, 1; A. R. Kitts, Allenbury's, 2; W. Oliver, Virtue's, 3; W. Webb, Virtue's, 4. Winner's time, 30min.

SHAFTESBURY H. v. STAMFORD H.—The members of these clubs successfully decided an inter-club race, the result being an easy win for the Shaftesbury H., who scored 21 points to their opponent's 57. The winner was J. Bonner, Stamford. J. Walker, Shaftesbury, was second; J. J. Burgess, Shaftesbury, third; and T. Walker, Shaftesbury, fourth. Winner's time, 38min 55sec.

THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS.—This club's short distance challenge cup race (4½ miles) took place at Roehampton. Result: A. L. Hye (holder), 1; T. B. Bennett, 2. Time, 30min 58sec.

SOUTHWARK H.—Two packs, consisting of 16 members and four visitors, went over the club championship course. Race in: T. Hodgson, 1; J. Robertson, 2; and J. H. Hack, 3.

THAMES VALLEY H.—Hon. sec. C. H. Hawkins paced several members of this club over nine miles of excellent country.

POLYTECHNIC H.—With the time close at hand for the Southern Counties Championship, this club's members are getting into strict training. A run was consequently held at Pinner over the long-distance course, in which a representative pack participated.

WEST KENT H.—This club's five miles handicap was successfully decided at Lewisham with the following results:—J. R. Seear, 7min start, 1; W. G. Killick, 3min 4sec, 2; G. O. Manby, 2min 50sec, 3.

BLACKHEATH H.—A training run took place over the 10 miles course to be used for the first competition for the Rowland challenge cup. The fast pack was paced by F. Stephens, and the slow by H. E. King.

ALEXANDER UNITED H.—This club's fixture was an ordinary run, starting from head-quarters at Clapham. Six miles were traversed at a good pace.

WANDLE HARRIERS.—Ten miles of heavy country was negotiated by the members of this club, the run being a trial for the team to represent the body in inter-club races.

SURREY BEAGLES.—Only a moderate number of members attended at the ordinary run. The seven miles' handicap has been postponed from Jan. 24 to Feb. 2.

HIGHGATE HARRIERS.—This senior club, in view of the approaching championship, held a training run at Finchley. A score of members covered six miles.

ROWING.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The match on the Tyne on Feb. 11 for the championship of England and £400, between Tom Sullivan, the champion, and C. R. Harding, of Chelsea, progresses satisfactorily. Sullivan has had his two daily rows with F. C. Pearce and has, double sculling above Hammersmith Bridge up till Friday, but on Saturday only in the morning did he take to the water, and then the double accompanying went over the first of the ebb to the iron bridge at Kew. Thence he pulled down at a rattling pace to Hammersmith, finishing fresh and well, and scaling 12st 2lb, or only 4lb under his rowing weight. He used his new Clasper, but when in the north the new swaddle will be utilised, as it is uncertain in which craft he will row. Of Harding, accounts as to condition, &c., are as favourable as can be, but he and his trainer, Bill Barry, have had a lot of trouble with the ice on the Tyne, and rowing has been fraught with danger. They have, however, made up for its absence in other ways. Sullivan leaves Hammersmith for Scotswood at the end of this week. The final deposit of £100 a-side is due at Newcastle on Feb. 7. There has been no betting recorded as yet.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

There are two dates left open for this race in the spring, March 30 and April 6. On the first the tide at Putney will not serve other than a 5 o'clock in the afternoon race, while on April 6 the contest can easily be started at mid-day, and this in all probability may be selected, as it should suit all interests.

LAUNCH OF A NEW SCULLING BOAT.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. C. B. Lawes, the amateur sculling champion of 1865, and stroke of the Cambridge losing eight in the same year, launched a sculling boat built on entirely new principles to his order. She is 31ft. 4in. long, 4¼in. high forward, 3in. aft, and 5½in. in depth amidships. Among her peculiarities the slide is 30in. long, exceeding the ordinary by 4in.; the riggers have the extraordinary leverage of 5ft. 9in., and are stayed forward instead of aft. The rower sits an inch and a-half above the boat, and there being no well, only a sort of plate into which the heels go, she is practically unsinkable. She is very full forward, tapering off very fine aft, the centre of the seat being 8in. more forward than an ordinary craft. Mr. Lawes gave her a fair trial, and was highly pleased with her. Among other peculiarities, the stretcher oscillates, taking the strain of the ankles, and the seat is constructed so as to prevent any jumping off the slide.

SWIMMING.

STAFFORD S.C.—This club's fixture was a 44 yards handicap, but only 9 put in an appearance. These were divided into two heats, and the final resulted in favour of W. M. Thomas, 18sec start; A. Cheese, 10sec, being second; whilst S. T. Watson, 7sec, was third.

WALTON S.C.—A team race between the captain's and vice-captain's teams (seven aside) proved somewhat uninteresting as, contrary to general expectations, the vice-captain's seven won by nearly a length of the bath.

ALERT S.C.—By way of a change this club held an object diving contest, but it did not prove the great attraction anticipated. After 15 competitors had "tried their luck," J. Brown was pronounced successful; E. J. Watts second, and J. Jenkinson third.

STANLEY S.C.—Only a small company assembled at St. George's Bath to witness this club's 60 yards handicap, the final heat of which resulted thus: E. Mottram, 17sec start, 1; T. H. Charles, 10sec, 2; E. Banbury, scratch, 3. Won by a yard.

THE WIGMORE S.C.—A clean header competition was this club's fixture, but as few of the members fancied themselves at this kind of contest, the entry proved of the small order, only 15 taking part. Three trials were allowed, and the ultimate result for the three prizes was as follows:—J. Stevens, 20 points, 1; T. Evans, 18, 2; R. G. George, 12, 3.

ST. STEPHEN'S S.C.—Forty four yards was the distance of this club's handicap, the final heat resulting as below:—T. M. Watkins, 10sec start, 1; J. Wallace, 18, 2; T. M. Major, 8, 3. Won by a foot; good third.

ST. GEORGE'S S.C.—An 88 yards handicap formed this club's fixture. Result: W. M. Wallace, 24sec start, 1; E. T. Stafford, 8sec, 2; E. J. Willis, 3sec, 3. Won by a yard; two yards between the next two.

CHESS.

HASTINGS v. ATHENAEUM.

For the first time this important Metropolitan club played a match at Hastings. Result: Locock beat Carr, Cheshire beat Mass, Womersley beat Michael, Colborne beat Passmore, Leonard beat Carson, Dobell lost to Carson, Aloof drew with W. Ward, Hall drew with B. M. Smith, Herington lost to Griffith, Suddenham lost to Farnold, Perkins drew with Healey, Jukes lost to Barfield, Fitzpatrick beat Swainson, Boger lost to Medcalf, Watson drew with Busvine, Locock lost to Foster. Score 8 all. Hastings names are given first.

LACROSSE.

Havelock beat West Herts, at Gospel Oak, by 3 goals to 1. Catford beat Blackheath (2nd), at Blackheath, by 7 goals to 1. Barnet (2nd) beat Croydon (2nd) at Norwood, by 6 goals to 5. London County beat Woodford (2nd) by 12 to 1. Barnet beat Croydon, at Barnet, 6 goals to 4. Hampstead (2nd) beat West London (2nd), at Wimbledon, by 5 goals to 0. Snaresbrook beat Surbiton, at Wanstead, by 6 goals to 5. West London drew with Hampstead, at Gospel Oak, 4 goals all.

GOLF.

WEST MIDDLESEX CLUB'S MONTHLY MEDALS.—Silver medal: H. R. Payne, 74 net. Bronze medal: Clifford Gibbons, 81 net.

ROYAL EPPING FOREST CLUB'S QUARTERLY MEETING.—W. E. Hall, 85 net. Handicaps over 12: E. J. Maidrett and N. Womersley tied at 92 net.

DISLEY CLUB'S WINTER HANDICAP.—V. Bellhouse, 92 net. Mid-Surrey Club's Senior Monthly Medal: First-class, J. G. Worthington, 82 net; Second-class, C. G. Patrick, 78 net.

ELTHAM CLUB'S MONTHLY MEDAL "BOGEY" COMPETITION.—W. H. Richardson, 2 down, receiving one stroke from bogey.

BOXING.

BOXING AT THE CENTRAL HALL.

The success of Mr. Frank Hinde's contests at the Central Hall, Holborn still continues. Last night there was a satisfactory attendance, the various bouts giving the spectators a capital evening's entertainment. Results:—

Harry Ashley (Bermondsey) beat Patsy Sullivan (Rotherhithe). This was a close bout, the former gaining the verdict, a most unpopular decision.

Bill Langford (St. Luke's) beat Ted Goodson (Haggerston). A well-contested contest from start to finish.

Harry Chamberlain (Bow) and Tom Green (Bethnal Green) boxed a four rounds display.

Ginger Brompton (Old Ford) beat Bill Butter (Chelsea). This was a six-round contest, the men being well matched.

Alf. Greer (St Luke's) beat Bill Dexter (Nottingham). This was the best contest of the evening. Dexter was the taller of the two, and had the advantage in reach, but Greer was thicker set than his opponent. The first round left neither with much of advantage, but after the second Dexter retired, both his thumbs being injured.

HOCKEY.

Surbiton (2nd) beat West Kent (2nd) by 3 goals to 0. Southgate beat East Sheen, at Southgate, by 3 to 0. Southgate (3rd) beat Pinner (2nd) by 5 to 1. Wimbledon beat Teddington, at Wimbledon, by 3 to 0. West Ealing drew with Central Croydon, at Croydon, 1 all. Croydon (2nd) beat Grecian (2nd) at West Norwood, by 2 to 0. Merton beat Tulse Hill, at Tulse Hill, by 4 goals to 1. Hampstead beat Hampton Wick, at Acton, by 4 goals to 1. Surbiton beat West Kent, at Surbiton, by 4 goals to love. Ilford beat Finchley, at Ilford, by 2 goals to 0. Molesey beat Putney, at Wimbledon, by 4 goals to 2. Kensington Park beat Ealing, at Ealing, by 1 goal to 0. Bromley beat Willesden, at Bromley, by 6 goals to 0.

Brigdr.-gen. Philip C. Yorke, Chief of the Essex Brigade of Volunteers, is lying seriously ill at his residence, Roden House, Brentwood, from an affection of the heart.

A concert was given at the St. Barnabas School room, South Lambeth, in aid of the St Silas Church Repair Fund. The programme was arranged by Mrs. Beesley, and included a duet by Messrs. Henry and Percy Cooke (violin and piano), some carols and glees by the church choir, a couple of recitations by Miss Florence Smith, and two sketches.

The Sheffield coroner held an inquiry on Saturday into the death of a man who died suddenly in a common lodging-house, and whose name was unknown. Police inquiries had elicited no information concerning the man's antecedents. Verdict, death from natural causes.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND AWARDS.

At a special meeting of the Board of Delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund last week, it was unanimously resolved that a sum of £17,600 be divided among the 165 participating institutions, as follows:—30 general hospitals, £6,231 13s.; 63 special hospitals, £6,393 1s.; 35 dispensaries, £1,088 9s.; 17 convalescent homes, £1,496 19s.; 18 miscellaneous institutions (including distributions and surgical appliance committees, also institutions for the gratuitous nursing of the sick poor in their own homes), £2,150 17s.; amount set aside, &c., £260 1s. The total receipts for the past year slightly exceeded £20,000. The awards were less than those of 1894 by £178 5s. 8d. Among the principal grants were:—London Hospital, £908 5s.; Guy's, £421 19s.; Middlesex, £339 7s.; University College Hospital, £337 5s.; St. George's, £461 16s.; Royal Free, £239 13s.; St. Mary's, £336 5s.; Poplar, £83 17s.; Westminster, £305 5s.; Brompton, £404 2s.; City of London (Victoria Park), £379 7s.; Hospital for Sick Children, £248 7s.; Victoria for Children, £164 5s.; National Hospital for Epilepsy, £240 5s.; Royal London Opthalmic, £205 4s.; Metropolitan Convalescent Homes, £309 18s.; Morley House Convalescent Home, £241 1s.; St. Leonard's Convalescent Home, £119 9s.; Folkestone Convalescent Home, £112 1s.; Distribution Committee, £750; Surgical Appliance Committee, £1,000.

On Saturday a light engine, when nearing Twickenham Station, was derailed close to the points. The driver and fireman narrowly escaped, and traffic was blocked until a late hour.

At Doncaster, Herbert Frost, collier, was committed for trial charged with shooting Robert Ratcliffe. The prosecutor, a farmer, was passing through his fields when he encountered the prisoner and two companions. Frost, who had a gun, raised it and fired, wounding him in the leg.

LYCEUM.

KING ARTHUR, by J. COMYNS CARR.

EVERY NIGHT, at 8.0 punctually, Mr. Irving, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Genevieve Ward, and Miss Ellen Terry. Music by Arthur Sullivan. Scenery and Costumes designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones.—Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst), open daily 10.0 till 5.0 only. Seats also booked by letter or telegram.

LYCEUM.

MATINEES, SANTA CLAUS.
EVERY AFTERNOON, at 1.30,
Mr. Oscar Barrett's Fairy Pantomime,
SANTA CLAUS.
Written by Mr. Horace Lennard.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10.0 till 5.0.

HAYMARKET.

Mr. WALLER and Mr. MORELL, Managers.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND, by OSCAR WILDE. Every Evening, at 8.30, Messrs. Lewis Waller, Alfred Bishop, Charles Brookfield, Cosmo Stuart, Stanford, Deane, Meyrick, Goodhart and Charles H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Fanny Brough, Maud Millett, Florence West, Vane Featherston, Helen Forsyth, and Julia Neilson.—MATINEE, EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 2.30. Box-office (Mr. Leverton), 10.0 till 5.0.—Sole Lessee, Mr. TREE.—HAYMARKET.

ST. JAMES'S.—Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER,

Sole Lessee and Manager.

LAST NIGHTS of GUY DOMVILLE, a Play, in Three Acts, by Henry James, Every Evening, at 9.0. Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Elliot, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. H. V. Esmond, Mr. Arthur Royston, Miss Marion Terry, Mrs. Edward Saker, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Evelyn Millard. Preceded, at 8.20, by TOO HAPPY BY HALF, a Comedy in One Act, by Julian Field.—Doors open 8.0. Matinee, Every Saturday, at 2.30.

Box-office (Mr. Arnold) open daily, 10.0 till 5.0. Seats booked by letter, telegram, or telephone 3,903.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

Sole Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. A. and S. GATTI.
Business Manager, Mr. FRED G. LATHAM.

EVERY EVENING, at 7.45, a New Play, by C. Haddon Chambers and B. C. Stephenson, entitled
THE FATAL CARD.
Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Murray Carson, Charles Fulton, W. L. Abingdon, Richard Purdon, and Harry Nicholls; Mesdames Vane, Laura Linden, Sophie Larkin, and Miss Millward.—Box-office open from 10.0 a.m.

STRAND THEATRE.

Lessee, WILLIE EDOUIN.

WEDNESDAY NEXT, January 30th, at 8.15, the Popular Burlesque by Harry Paulton, Written Up-to-Date, entitled
BABES.
Miss ALICE ATHERTON as Tessie.
Mr. WILLIE EDOUIN as Dolly.
Messrs. J. J. Dallas, David James, Edgar Stevens, J. D. Saunders; Mesdames Elaine Gryce, Mary Allestree, Ada Palmer, Adelaine Vaudrey, Annie Goward, and others.
WILLIE EDOUIN
as
THE HEATHEN CHINEE.
First Matinee, Saturday, February 2nd, at 2.30.

SAVOY THEATRE.

EVERY EVENING at 8.0, a NEW OPERA by F. C. Burnand and Arthur Sullivan, entitled THE CHIEFTAIN. Followed by COX AND BOX. Matinee Every Saturday, at 2.30.—Box-office open 9.0 a.m. to 11.0 p.m.—R. D'Oyly Carte, Proprietor and Manager.

GLOBE THEATRE.

Lessee, W. S. PENLEY.
CHARLEY'S AUNT,
by Brandon Thomas.
W. S. PENLEY as CHARLEY'S AUNT.
EVERY EVENING at 9.0. Preceded, at 8.0, by IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD.
Box-office open 10.0 to 5.0.
Matinee Every Saturday, at 3.0.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

EVERY EVENING, at 8.0,
Mr. J. L. Toole and Company,
for a Limited Number of Nights, in
WALKER LONDON
and
PAUL PRY.
Special Matinee,
Wednesday, Jan. 30th, WALKER, LONDON. Last Matinee.

GARRICK THEATRE.

Mr. JOHN HARE.

A PAIR OF SPECTACLES, by Sydney Grundy, Every Evening, at 8.45. Mr. John Hare, Messrs. Charles Groves, Gilbert Hare, A. Aynesworth, C. Raimond, C. Rock, G. Du Maurier; Mesdames Mabel Terry Lewis (her first appearance on the stage), L. Lee, and Kate Rorke.—At 8.15, FADED FLOWERS, by Arthur à Beckett. Messrs. Bourchier, Buist, Horace Terry, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh.—Doors open at 7.45.—Box-office from 10.0 to 5.0.—Matinee, Saturday Next, at 2.30. Doors open 2.0.

COMEDY.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. COMYNS CARR.
LAST NINE NIGHTS, at 8.15, of
THE NEW WOMAN,
By Sydney Grundy.
Box Office (Mr. Scarisbrick) open daily 10.0 to 5.0.

LAST MATINEES, WEDNESDAY NEXT, January 30th, SATURDAY NEXT, February 2nd, and WEDNESDAY, February 6th, at 2.30.
COMEDY THEATRE.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. WEEDON GROSSMITH.
EVERY EVENING, at 9.0,
THE NEW BOY,
by Arthur Law.
Mr. WEEDON GROSSMITH as THE NEW BOY. Preceded, at 8.15, by HAL, THE HIGHWAYMAN, by H. M. Paull.
Doors open 7.50.—Box-office open from 10.0 till 10.0.
MATINEES, EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 3.0.

GAIETY THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES.
EVERY EVENING, at 8.0,
THE SHOP GIRL.
Box-office open daily, 10.0 to 5.0.
MATINEE, SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.0.

GAIETY THEATRE.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—A Series of MATINEES of HANSEL AND GRETEL (from Daly's Theatre) will be given at this Theatre, commencing TO-MORROW (Monday) and EVERY AFTERNOON, except SATURDAY, when THE SHOP GIRL will be played as usual. Seats can now be booked.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

ARTHUR ROBERTS'S SEASON.
EVERY EVENING, at 8.15, Mr. ARTHUR ROBERTS, in the New Musical Piece,
CLAUDE DUVAL,
Written by Frederic Bowyer and Payne Nunn.
Music by John Crook and Lionel Monckton.
Doors open 7.50. Matinee, Every Saturday, at 2.30.
Box-office open from 10.0 to 5.0.

LYRIC THEATRE.

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"YOU R POOR,"
"YOU R POOR,"
"YOU R POOR,"

she slyly said, "while I have a million." So he sprang forward and pressed her to his bosom and swiftly said, "I will marry you 'for all that' and then take you 3

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EASTERN EMPIRE, Bow-road, E.

Manager, Mr. FRED LAW.

NOTICE.—Reduced Prices of Admission and Two Houses Nightly, commencing Monday, January 28th. Grand Success of THE TOWER BRIDGE, by the Gurney Combination. The Four Gartos, Fanny Guyton, the Ralstons, Mons. Kenno, Hugh Dempsey, Joe Matthews, the Weimars, &c.—First House open 6.15; Second House 8.40.—Admission 1s., 6d., 4d., 3d., 2d.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL,

(OPPOSITE VICTORIA STATION), PIMLICO.
Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. WAKE.

GREAT VARIETY COMPANY.—Important Engagement of Brien McCullough's Combination in a New Sensational Sketch, entitled A DAUGHTER OF EVE. Daisy Wood, Comedienne; Capt. G. H. Fowler and Nellie Fraze in their Shooting Act, Excelsior Quartette, Charles Clifford, Vocalist and Harpist; Viola Nelson, Male Impersonator; Prof. Matthew's Goats, F. W. Wilkinson, Hardwhite Troupe of Dancers (five in number), J. P. Boston, Irish Comedian; Charles Vincent, Topical Vocalist; the Two Bostons, Bull Fighters—Assistant Manager, George Chapman.

WASHINGTON PALACE OF VARIETIES,

YORK-ROAD, BATTERSEA.
Sole Lessee and Proprietor, Mr. G. W. MOORE.
General Manager, Mr. WILL SERGEANT.

ENGAGEMENT, at an Enormous Expense, of Zulima, the Female Sampson. Three Sisters Jonghmans, the Avelos, Lily Marney, Conroy and Fisbur, Nelly Burn, J. P. Boston, Beverley York, Chas. Linden, O'Brien and Morris, Ada Cerito. Brown and Kelly Combination in their Screaming Comic Sketch, MY SECOND HUSBAND.—No Waits. A Very Slippery Programme. Doors open, 7.30.

HAMMERSMITH THEATRE OF VARIETIES

POWERFUL New Variety Company: Marie Le Blanc, the Popular Comedienne; the Tiny Sisters Webster, the West-end Favourites; the Brantfords, American Comedy Gems; the Twin Brothers Wemms and the Sisters Coyne, in Comic Sketch; Sculley and Morrell, Negro Comedians; the Dantys (Charles and Alfred), Ada Templeton, Fred Mason, the Whistling Comedian; Edith Manley, the Lady Katempere; Ernest Fuller, All Stirli-

OLYMPIA.

TWICE DAILY.
THE ORIENT, OR AN EMBASSY TO THE EAST.
Most Stupendous Production of any Age or Country.
Designed and Arranged by BOLOSSY KIRALFY.
TWICE DAILY—12.0 to 5.0 and 6.0 to 11.0.
GRAND SPECTACLE, at 2.30 and 8.30.
2,500 PERFORMERS.
Troupes of Elephants, Horses, Camels, Mules, &c.
Stage Larger than any Six in the World Combined.
3,000,000 Gallons of Water in the Great Lake,
Nine Miles of Steam Heating Pipes.
THE WEATHER DEFIED.
Oriental warmth pervades throughout the vast structure.
The Building connected by Covered Way with Addison-road Station.
ADMISSION, including Reserved Seat to Grand Spectacle, 1s., 2s., 3s., 4s., 5s. Private Boxes, to hold six, £3 3s.
ONE INCLUSIVE PAYMENT. NO EXTRAS.

QUEEN'S HALL.

TO-DAY (SUNDAY), January 27th, at 3.30, GRAND ORGAN RECITAL by Mr. Fountain Meen. Vocalists, Miss Winifred Ludlam, Miss Alice M'Bride, Mr. William Green, Mr. F. Lepine, Trumpet, Mr. W. Morrow. Accompanist, Mr. Henry J. Wood.—Admission Free. Reserved seats, 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., of the usual Agents, and Robert Newman's Box-office, Queen's Hall, W.

NIAGARA HALL,

ST. JAMES'S PARK STATION.
THE LATEST AND GREATEST NOVELTY.
REAL ICE SKATING UNDER COVER
in all Weathers.
Breakages and Immersions Impossible.
9.30 to 1.0, 5s.; 3.0 to 6.30, 5s.; 8.0 to 11.30, 3s.
The Most Fashionable Resort in London.
NIAGARA HALL,
St. James's Park Station.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.

BAKER-STREET STATION.
In Connection with all Railways.
Through Bookings at all Metropolitan Stations.

NEW and Numerous Additions and Attractions. Superb and Richly arranged DRAWING-ROOM TABLEAUX. The LATE LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL. M. CASIMIR-PERIER, the LATE PRESIDENT of the FRENCH REPUBLIC. LIFELIKE and REALISTIC PORTRAITS of MEMBERS of the ROYAL FAMILY. H.M. the QUEEN Holding a DRAWING-ROOM. CZAR and CZARINA of RUSSIA. OUR LEADING ECCLESIASTICAL DIGNITARIES. PAST and PRESENT CABINET MINISTERS. Over 400 other PORTRAIT MODELS. Music all day.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.
Now on View! Now on View!!
THE SOUTHEND MURDER.
TAKEN FROM LIFE. JAMES CANHAM READ. TAKEN FROM LIFE.
THE SOUTHEND MURDER.
JAMES CANHAM READ.
Taken from Life.
NOW ON VIEW! NOW ON VIEW!!
Admission, 1s.; Children under twelve, 6d. Extra Rooms, 6d.
Open from 10.0 a.m. to 10.0 p.m.

DANCING.

HOLBORN TOWN HALL, GRAY'S INN-ROAD.

MR. H. R. JOHNSON (Principal M.C. for Sir Augustus Harris's Balls), holds Select Assemblies every Monday and Saturday, 8.0 to 11.30. Tickets, Single, 1s. 6d.; Double, 2s. 6d. Long Night Dance, February 4th; Dancing, 8.0 to 1.30. Tickets, 2s. Full Band. Annual Evening Dress Ball, March 13th, at Freemasons' Grand Hall, Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C.—All communications to Albany House, Tavistock-place, W.C.

DANCING.

GROSVENOR HALL, BUCKINGHAM PALACE-ROAD
(Near Victoria).

MR. G. F. HUGHES' POPULAR CINDERELLAS Every Monday, 7.30 to 11.30. Programme of 18 dances. Tickets 1s. Fancy Dress Ball, Monday, February 25th. Limelight. Pipers' Prizes. St. Peter's Institute, every Tuesday and Thursday, 7.30 to 11.30, 1s.—Prospectus, address, Mr. HUGHES, 1, Denbigh-place, Warwick-square, S.W.

OUR SPORTING GALLERY.

For particulars of a new publication especially appealing to Footballers, which has been secured for the readers of "The People," see full advertisement on page 13.

The People.
OFFICES: MILFORD-LANE, STRAND, W.C.

"IN THE MIDDLE ORDER OF MANKIND ARE GENERALLY TO BE FOUND ALL THE ARTS, WISDOM, AND VIRTUE OF SOCIETY. THIS ORDER ALONE IS KNOWN TO BE THE TRUE PRESERVER OF FREEDOM, AND MAY BE CALLED 'THE PEOPLE.'"—*Vicar of Wakefield, chap. 19.*

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

Friends and foes alike will deplore the death of the brilliant young statesman—for a statesman he was — who has just passed away. If the work which Lord Randolph Churchill accomplished, and that, too, in an extraordinarily short time, by sheer force of his own personality, be not a work of statesmanship in the fullest sense of the term we cannot imagine anything to which the word can be applied. When the history of parties during his brief, meteoric public life comes to be written his work will stand out as one of the determining factors in that history. For what Lord Randolph Churchill did was nothing less important than this — he popularised the Tory party by the invention of Tory Democracy. Looking round as a young man—as a man of the future—upon the state of parties, and particularly of the Conservative party, he discerned on the one hand the failure of Radicalism to satisfy the political requirements of the masses, and, on the other, the gulf which separated the Conservatism of the time from that Democracy with which it ought to have been thoroughly in touch. Recognising that in a country possessing a wide Democratic franchise no party can hope for political power which is not in thorough sympathy with Democratic institutions and aspirations, he set himself to work in his way to harmonise Conservatism and Democracy. How far he succeeded, what he accomplished, and taught the party to accomplish, all the world knows. The Conservatism of to-day is very different from the Conservatism of even ten years ago. No longer a policy which can justly be termed in the very smallest degree reactionary, it recognises the absolute necessity of moving with the march of human progress, and while wisely careful that progress be prudent, it yields not an inch to the claims of Radicalism to be the pioneer along the path. The fact is that at the present time it is the Conservative party that enjoys the support of most of what is best in the Democracy, while Radicalism—once the true champion of the people against reactionary Toryism—is rapidly becoming the monopoly of the faddist and the fanatic. Now, who brought about this complete reversal of the situation? Not any one man entirely, no doubt; but one man mainly, beyond question. That man was Randolph Churchill. The details of his career matter little; what does matter, and will matter more and more, as the New Conservatism and the New Radicalism become more and more clearly defined, is his life's work—the creation, namely, of Tory Democracy. That is his claim to his place in the temple of political fame, and to the earnest gratitude of those who believe in the principle which guided his brief but brilliant career, the principle that the Conservative party ought to be, and must be, the Party of the People.

THE VICTORY OF EVESHAM.

A glorious victory for the Conservative and Unionist cause has been the outcome of the Parliamentary battle of Evesham. Colonel Long has been returned by a majority of 1,175 votes as against that of 580—or more than double—obtained by the late Sir Edmund Lechmere at the last General Election. An examination of the figures shows that whereas Mr. Impey, the Radical candidate, polled a slightly smaller number of votes than on the last occasion, the Conservative and Unionist vote was nearly 600 more this time than it then was. Furthermore, the election was contested on a new register, that is to say, with exceptional facilities for obtaining the real opinion of the constituency. Even the particular circumstance of the heavy floods and severe weather which prevailed last Tuesday must be presumed to have told against the Conservative candidate, because it tended to give out-voters an excellent excuse for not taking the trouble to come and vote. The candidates, too, and the condition of the rival parties in the division afforded no advantages to our side. The Conservatives, surprised by the sudden death of their late popular member, had to find a candidate in a hurry, and one who was a stranger to the constituency. Mr. Impey, on the other hand, had fought the seat before. Finally, we are compelled to refer to one potent, though unworthy, weapon which the Radicals did not disdain to use. We refer to the abominable slander against Colonel Long which was put about in the interests of the other side. Thanks, however, to the promptitude and completeness with which this cruel and cowardly slander was exposed it did Colonel Long's cause no harm, and, indeed, in all probability obtained him the support of a few disgusted electors who might not otherwise have voted for him. Well, in spite of all the difficulties which we have just enumerated, the Conservative majority is more than twice what it was in 1892. Evesham, in fact, has gone the way of Forfarshire and of Brigg, and has served another peremptory notice to quit upon the most unlucky, as it is the most incompetent, of modern Administrations. It is no wonder that Sir William Harcourt should, when speaking at Derby on Wednesday, have dismissed Evesham in a single sentence. Upon the details of the long-expected Derby oration we need not dwell, for it really does not matter in the least what Sir William Harcourt may have solemnly stated to be the policy of the Government, inasmuch as it is perfectly certain that the Government cannot possibly, with its microscopic majority, carry out any policy whatever. We would, however, call attention to one point. Speaking of Home Rule for Ireland, Sir William said: "We adhere to the policy of Home Rule until it is passed into law." Now, that is a very important statement, because it flatly contradicts the language often used on Radical platforms to make English electors believe that Home Rule is dead. It is within our knowledge that during the Evesham campaign the subject of Home Rule was kept well to the fore by the local Unionists. We heartily congratulate them upon that policy, to which, as we do not doubt, they are considerably indebted for their splendid victory. There is, indeed, a special reason why Home Rule should be thoroughly explained, in its practical bearings, to rural electors—a reason which applies with greater strength to them than to the urban constituencies. One of the inevitable results of handing over the government of Ireland to an Irish Parliament would be a state of social, financial, industrial, and agricultural confusion and depression. This would naturally lead to an enormous exodus of Irish labourers into the rural districts of England to take the bread out of the mouths of our English agricultural labourers. The English agricultural labourer is already acquainted with his Irish brother, and does not love him in the least. Will he love him any better if he finds him not merely an annual visitor at harvest time but a regular inhabitant of the village and a permanent competitor for work and wages? We hold that it is both right and expedient that this truth should be brought home clearly to every elector in the rural constituencies. We are, moreover, convinced that if this were done the rural electorate would be unanimously and permanently hostile to any Government which did not renounce and repudiate Home Rule. That consideration we would earnestly commend to Unionists in view of the approach of the General Election.

SOUTHAMPTON BOUNDARIES.

Maj.-gen. Phipps concluded, at Southampton, a six-days' inquiry as to the proposal of the corporation to make its municipal boundaries the same as the Parliamentary, thus adding an acreage fourfold to the present, and making the population over 100,000.—Mr. Balfour Browne, for the corporation, pointed out that the borough wished absolutely to protect itself from any defect in the sanitary arrangements of the adjacent areas. In addition, the trade of Southampton was going up by leaps and bounds, and with the extension of the docks the works would have to be carried on in Woolston, outside the municipal borough.—On the other hand, Mr. Pembroke Stephens, Q.C., and Mr. Creswell submitted that the scheme was most inopportune. Parliament, with the sanction of all parties in the State, had just increased local self-government in the form of parish and district councils, but if this extension was granted, all these councils would have to do would be to consider the terms of their own extinction. The question was of grave importance to every rural place in the country, for the Local Government Act would prove useless if such annexations were allowed.

MR. EDWARD SOLOMON.


THE LATE EDWARD SOLOMON.

Mr. Edward Solomon, the well-known composer of comic opera, who has just fallen a victim to typhoid fever, had a very pleasing gift of melody, and was a master of musical jest and picturesque orchestration. He was a prolific worker, and leaves a considerable number of yet unperformed operas and burlesques. His sudden death came as a surprise and a shock to his many friends and acquaintances. Although his name had been before the public for many years, Mr. Solomon was still young, as age is measured nowadays, being only about 36. His boyish appearance was indeed a source of astonishment to those who knew him merely by his works, and who saw him take his place in the conductor's chair for the first time. A more cheerful temperament than his never existed, and even when the outlook was of the gloomiest, a state of things too frequently provoked by his own heedlessness and generosity, his spirits were not to be damped. Unlike Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mr. Solomon had not had the benefit of a Leipsic training, and what he knew of the science of music he taught himself. He began his professional life at the Middlesex Music Hall, in Drury-lane, before it had developed from the "Old Mogul" into something like a variety theatre. He was a member of Mr. Zeluti's very small, but efficient and hard-worked, orchestra, playing the piano, reading the curious "band parts" of roving "serio-comics" with ease, and embellishing the "vamping" accompaniments with variations of his own invention. He was always ready to give a valuable "tip" to theatrical managers visiting the hall in search of "talent" for pantomime and burlesque, and these tips were conveyed confidentially across the front of the little box of musicians. His first comic opera was produced at the Imperial Theatre, the book being written by Mr. Pottinger Stephens, and called "Billee Taylor." The funeral took place on Friday at the Jewish Cemetery, Willesden, in the presence of numerous friends.

"GALLANT LITTLE WALES."

The Anglesey County Council, at its meeting on Thursday, decided that inasmuch as the London and North-Western Railway had refused to inquire into the circumstances attending the dismissal of monoglot Welshmen, the Welsh members of Parliament be called upon to block the private bills of the company in the House of Commons until the directors instituted a fair inquiry. The council further invited the Midland Railway Company to extend its service to North Wales, and promised to exert its efforts to secure the success of the undertaking.

ANOTHER LIBERATOR VICTIM.

An inquest was held at Bath on Thursday concerning the death of Bertha Gibson, 46, who died suddenly. The evidence showed that the deceased lost £500 in the Liberator Building Society. This had prayed on her mind, causing illness from which she died.—A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

INDIAN LADY DOCTOR.

Bai Rakhmabai is now in Bombay again, a duly qualified medical practitioner. She has returned to her home in Girgaum, after having for the past five years devoted her whole time and attention to her studies. In addition to her diploma in physic and surgery, she has with her testimonials from the many professors and practitioners who have had opportunities of observing her patient energy and careful study. After first leaving Bombay, it seems, Rakhmabai studied at the London School of Medicine, then gained experience at the Royal Free Hospital, afterwards studying midwifery at Dublin, and gaining further experience by serving in the London Children's Hospital. A hearty welcome is given her by the Bombay press.

HOME SECRETARY AT HULL.

The Home Secretary, speaking at Hull, deprecated the formation of an Independent Labour Party. He summarised the achievements of the Government since they assumed office, and ridiculed Mr. Chamberlain's programme as one upon which the Tory Party could not seriously contemplate going to the country. The ensuing Session would be employed in fulfilling the task entrusted to the Government in 1892. The electors would ultimately have to decide whether the principle of popular representation should have the predominance in Parliament; and afterwards the manner of reforming the House of Lords could be dealt with.

ENGLISH ACTORS IN DANGER.

The Hotel Vendome, New York, was discovered to be on fire on Thursday, and before the flames could be extinguished by the efforts of the fire department, who arrived early on the scene of the disaster, a large portion of the handsome building had been destroyed. A number of the ladies and gentlemen of Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company were stopping at the hotel, and one of them, Mr. Henry Neville, was aroused just in the nick of time, and assisted to escape by a policeman. Mr. Neville was uninjured with the exception of some slight cuts he received from falling glass. Miss Cissy Fitzgerald was also in the house and escaped unhurt, but drenched with water from a hose, a stream striking her in the face and knocking her down.

DEATH AT FULHAM.

Mr. Drew, West London coroner, resumed an inquest at Hammersmith, with reference to the death of Annie Lindsey, 68, wife of a pensioner, residing at 30, Grove-avenue, Fulham.—Jenny Stevens, a little girl, stated that about 5 o'clock on the evening of the 27th ult. Mrs. Lindsey was intoxicated, and she assisted her home. Deceased let herself in with a key. She stumbled and fell down three stairs. Mr. Lindsey was very cross, and shouted and swore at Mrs. Lindsey from above. Witness was frightened and ran home. Deceased as witness went out was going upstairs.—Several witnesses gave evidence, who stated that both husband and wife lived on very happy terms. One witness said that Mr. Lindsey, when in drink, was "headstrong."—Dr. Scott Elliott stated that the injury might have been caused accidentally, or by being pushed down. There was no evidence of a kick, as there was no bruising.—Open verdict.

A RAILWAY THIEF.

At the County of London Sessions, Henry Lawton, 54, carman, was indicted for having stolen a parcel of cloth, value £8, the property of the Midland Railway Company. Mr. Bodkin prosecuted.—The parcel was entrusted to the Midland Railway Company by Messrs. Edelstein and Moser, Bradford, for delivery to Messrs. Philips, Whitechapel. The parcel arrived safely at St. Pancras Goods Station. Prisoner, who was in the employ of a contractor named Thomas, was seen on the 5th of January by two porters, named Adams and Toombs, to pick up the parcel, which he placed in his van and covered it up between some packages. A van guard named Walsh, who was with prisoner on the day in question, stated that he drove with prisoner to the London, Chatham, and Dover Goods Station at Blackfriars. On the way the parcel was placed in a sack, and after leaving the goods station prisoner told him to drive to Guildford-street. There the van boy was sent to his tea by Lawton, and on coming back the parcel had disappeared. The two porters gave information, and Insp. Palmer, of the company's police, arrested prisoner at Mr. Thomas's stables in Brewery-road, Islington. In reply to the charge he said, "I don't know what you mean: I've had no parcel."—The jury returned a verdict of guilty.—Ten months' hard labour.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States Senate has decided to report in favour of the credit for the dredging of Pearl Harbour in Hawaii. The idea was advanced in the committee that if the work is once undertaken other nations will understand that it is the purpose of the United States to maintain their supremacy in the country.

IN THE DIVORCE COURT.

AN ILL-ASSORTED MARRIAGE.

Avery v. Avery and Orton—Avery v. Avery.—The husband, a Baptist minister, sought a divorce by reason of his wife's misconduct with the co-respondent, Mr. John Henry Orton, stated to be a gentleman of independent means, against whom damages were claimed. Answers were filed denying the charge, and in a cross petition the wife sought a judicial separation by reason of the alleged misconduct of her husband, which he denied. The wife's suit, however, was abandoned.—Mr. Willis, Q.C. with whom was Mr. Searle, who appeared for Mr. Avery, said that his client for nearly ten years was pastor of a Baptist church, and was now assistant secretary to the Baptist Union. He married his wife in August, 1878, and there were three children. The co-respondent was a gentleman of some position, living at Bedford, and he had known the respondent before her marriage with the petitioner. Mr. and Mrs. Avery lived together on affectionate terms until January of last year. It appeared that the co-respondent had called at the house at Hornsey and had seen the respondent in the absence of Mr. Avery. When remonstrated with for this conduct, she said she had done nothing to be ashamed of. On Jan. 29, 1894, she suggested that she should like to visit her sister, who lived at Woking, and she went, but did not return when expected. In the meantime Mr. Orton had taken rooms at the Hotel Metropole, he telling one of the servants that he was expecting his wife. Mrs. Avery, without communicating with her husband, left Woking in company of her sister, and they came together to London, where they met Mr. Orton. The sister left for Woking, and thought that Mrs. Avery was going to return home, instead of which she stayed with Mr. Orton at the Hotel Metropole. She sent a telegram to her sister to wire her husband that she would not be home that night, and this was done. The following day Mr. Avery met his wife at King's Cross Station on her way home to the house at Hornsey. She told him she had only left Woking that morning. Subsequently she again left her house, and telegraphed that she could not return that night. Then Mr. Avery's suspicions began to be aroused, especially as on the following morning there was a letter, addressed to his wife, from her sister at Woking. He opened the letter and found it contained the following P.S.:—"It was by the merest chance that the telegrams fell into my hands. If anybody else had seen them it would have been dreadful." When Mr. Avery saw his wife she said she had been nursing Mr. Orton, who had been seriously ill, but he told her he had grave doubts as to her conduct. She declined, in a subsequent interview, to give him any information where she had been, and in the result, after inquiries had been made, this petition was filed.—Mr. English Harrison, who appeared for the respondent, said that he had no defence to the case, and would offer no evidence in regard to the cross petition.—Mr. Bowen Rowlands, Q.C., on behalf of the co-respondent, stated that he did not intend to call his client. He pointed out that in the original petition there was no claim for damages, that only being claimed after the filing of the cross petition.—Mr. Searle said that originally the association with which Mr. Avery was connected objected to any claim being made for damages, but that objection was afterwards withdrawn.—After evidence from petitioner, and other evidence of the co-respondent visiting the house in the absence of the petitioner, and of their staying together at the Hotel Metropole, the jury found for Mr. Avery on all the issues, and assessed the damages at £750.—His lordship granted a decree nisi, with costs, and custody of the children, and directed that the damages be paid to the petitioner, who would pay them into the Registry when recovered.

SENTENCE ON A BABY FARMER.

After a hearing lasting nearly seven hours, the Northampton magistrates sentenced a single woman named Rose Bennett, 33, of Milton Lodge, Northamptonshire, to eight months' imprisonment on two charges of child neglect. Prisoner advertised for the care of infants to nurse, and neglected them. Three cases were gone into, and the evidence went to show that the prisoner so neglected the children under her charge, that they became dreadfully emaciated, and were found dirty and covered with sores.—Witnesses from London and Yorkshire gave evidence.—The prosecution was instituted by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE AT DUBLIN

A largely-attended meeting, organised by the Irish Unionist Alliance, was held in the Rotunda, Dublin, on Thursday. At the commencement of the meeting a resolution of sympathy with Lady Randolph Churchill was passed in silence. Sir Edward Clarke, who was enthusiastically received, in the course of a long speech, said that until the Home Rule question was absolutely disposed of he could feel only a passing interest in any other questions. He would not discuss local matters. Ireland was competent to force her own opinion upon them. The solution of existing difficulties, he believed, could be largely effected by rendering it easy to restore the single ownership of the soil, by which alone deviations of interest likely to create danger might be prevented. The present absence of crime in Ireland was rather in spite of, than on account of, leading anti-Parnellite members, who for the last three months had been delivering speeches that were incitements to outrage and murder. If Home Rule had been passed it would have produced armed resistance in Ireland, and, in his judgment, that resistance would have been right, and he believed it would have been successful.

SIR W. HARCOURT ON THE DISSOLUTION.

Sir William Harcourt addressed a great meeting of his constituents at Derby on Wednesday night, when he claimed that the Government had been successful in carrying out large portions of the mandate given them at the last general election. In foreign affairs they had worked in the interests of peace, and where injustice and wrong had prevailed, as in Armenia, they had obtained the co-operation of European Powers to redress that wrong. In naval administration they had made efforts to repair the deficiencies of their predecessors, while in Ireland by wise and conciliatory administration they had brought about peace. As to the future, there was a great deal of nonsense talked about dissolution. The Government would not dissolve until they had endeavoured to complete the work they had been commissioned to perform. Among the measures to be pressed forward were Welsh Disestablishment, One Man One Vote, and Amendment of the Irish Land Laws. Of all falsehoods circulated about the Government, the most stupid was the imputation that they intended to play false to the temperance cause. The Government adhered to the policy of local veto, and in order to secure the largest possible support he would attempt to add to the option of prohibition the option of reduction.

JABEZ BALFOUR.

In some interested quarters the hope of placing Jabez Balfour upon his trial in England has been almost abandoned. But the authorities at the Home Office are as determined as ever to spare no effort to obtain the surrender of the fugitive. Both Insp. Tonbridge and Sergt. Craggs, the Scotland Yard officers sent to Argentina to bring back Balfour, are in indifferent health, but they have been ordered to remain in South America.

WRECK OF A STEAMER.

29 PERSONS DROWNED.

The wreckage of the steamer Chicora, which has been missing for some days, has been discovered at Southhaven, on Lake Michigan. The vessel left Milwaukee on Monday last with 21 passengers and crew. Twenty-nine persons were drowned.

The London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company announces a dividend of £2 5s. per cent. for the past year.

DISTRESSED IRISH LADIES.

The Earl of Howth opened a bazaar at Bournemouth in aid of the Irish Ladies' Distressed Fund, and in doing so remarked that, perhaps, his position as an Irish land proprietor gave him authority to appeal in behalf of ladies connected with the same class. Although the administration of the charity was carried on without reference to religion or politics, he considered a principal claim which these ladies had on the consideration and charity of an English public rested very much upon the circumstances in which their poverty had arisen. It had been the custom for many years in Ireland that the daughters and sons of a family should place what was commonly called their fortunes, whether £3,000 or £5,000, upon the estate with which they were connected; and then, in their kindness, affection, and loyalty to that estate, which was generally not encumbered with much money, they did not press to have that sum repaid to them, as they might do. Then it came to pass that rents were lowered, tenants were unwilling to pay their rents, and many ladies found themselves deprived of their income. There was another distress coming upon them shortly, he feared, and that was another Land Bill. If the Government brought in another bill, there would be an increase of the distress to which he had alluded. In England the reductions of rent were not felt so keenly as in Ireland, for in this country there were plenty of resources from which poor relatives could be helped, but in the case of Ireland, those who would be willing to help their distressed fellow-countrywomen were not able to do so, owing to the combination of unfavourable circumstances to which he had alluded, and an appeal had to be made to the generous and charitable English public.

A DRAINAGE TROUBLE.

The Lord Chief Justice on Tuesday tried an action brought by Mr. A. Nicholas, of the Stock Exchange, against Mr. G. Roberts, house governor at the London Hospital, to recover damages for alleged misrepresentation in the sale of a lease. After plaintiff had bought the lease of the house, he found that the drains were defective, and the question at issue was whether he had received from the defendant a warranty that the drains were in a sanitary condition.—The jury found in the negative, and judgment was given for the defendant.

MANCHESTER AND BREMEN.

It is stated that the North-German Lloyd Line, will, in the course of a few weeks, start a direct service of cargo steamers between Bremen and Manchester. The vessels to be used will be of about 1,000 tons burden, and the promoters believe that there will be a full cargo at each trip. The service will consist of one steamer per month, and if successful the number of sailings will be increased. The managers of the line have been in the habit of sending large quantities of goods over the railway for transhipment from Hull to Bremen, and the expense of this will be obviated by using Manchester as a port. The service has been promised support by the shippers and traders of Manchester and the district, and it is anticipated that it will give a considerable impetus to the trade of the Ship Canal.

DEATH FROM ASPHYXIA.

At St. Pancras Coroner's Court, Dr. Thomas held an inquest with reference to the death of James Jeffries, aged 58, hairdresser, lately residing at Chester-road, Highgate. The deceased had complained of severe internal pains, and his daughter-in-law went to a chemist's and brought back an eight-ounce bottle labelled "The mixture. One tablespoonful to be taken every hour if needful." He had one dose at once, and he seemed to be somewhat relieved, but at 3 o'clock in the morning, when the pains came on again, he had another tablespoonful, and died shortly afterwards.—The jury returned a verdict of death from asphyxia caused naturally.

WELSH LAND COMMISSION.

At Tuesday's sitting of this Commission Mr. A. de B. Porter, secretary to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, gave evidence. He stated that the Commissioners owned 6,858 acres in Wales and 1,446 acres in Monmouthshire. Ten years ago the Commissioners had adopted a plan of selling holdings to tenants by deferred payments. They had, under this plan, sold about 9,500 acres for £153,000, and not a single tenant had failed to keep up his payments. The allowances or abatements to tenants in Wales had been much smaller than in England, but that was because there was a larger proportion of arable land in England, and it was the holders of arable land who had required assistance.

ALLEGED THEFT BY A LETTER-SORTER.

At Gloucester, Thomas Albert Martin was charged, on remand, with stealing a registered letter, containing 19s. 10d., the property of the Postmaster-general, on the 11th inst. From the evidence given it was shown that for some time past complaints had been received of the loss of letters containing valuables which passed through the Gloucester office.—Mr. Kirby (clerk in the General Post Office, London), who was sent down to make inquiries in consequence, went to Malvern, and thence posted a letter, containing the amount stated, addressed to Mr. Finch, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. This was a fictitious address, and the letter was not entered on the letter-bill. When the mail-bags arrived at Gloucester the registered and unpaids were handed to the prisoner, whose duty it was to have taken the letter not entered on the letter-bill to the superintendent. He did not do so, however, and, in accordance with a pre-arranged plan, Mr. Kirby was communicated with, and prisoner was arrested as he left the office. When questioned he admitted taking the letter, which he produced from his trousers-pocket, saying it was the first time he had done such a thing. There was a second charge against him of stealing a letter containing four packets of needles, and on both charges he was committed for trial.

FRENCH DETECTIVES AND ANARCHISM.

The London correspondent of the "Glasgow Herald," writing on Sunday night, says:—"I learn to-day that the French detective officers who have arrived here have been instructed to watch the Anarchist movement in the provincial centres. It was recently discovered that the Anarchist executive had decided to renew their efforts in the chief industrial towns. No doubt in this decision they were inspired by the hope that they would thus evade the attentions of the foreign police. The French authorities have, however, decided to increase their force to an extent sufficient to follow the conspiracy in all its British ramifications. Of course a most perfect harmony prevails between the police authorities of London and Paris, and by the advice of the authorities at Scotland Yard French officers are to be sent to Manchester, Liverpool, Walsall, Birmingham, and certain of the Scotch towns."

The will of Sir Charles Hugh Lowther, of Wellington House, Leeds, who died at the age of 91 years, leaving personal estate of the gross value of £16,562 17s. 9d., the net value not being stated, has been proved by his son, Mr. James Lowther.

Mr. J. Y. Cowlishaw, a prominent citizen of Sheffield, on Wednesday morning shot himself at his residence. Deceased was a nephew of the donor of the Mappin Art Gallery, and was one of the trustees of the gift. He was a director of the Sheffield and Hallamshire Bank and of several local companies. He was a silver-plate manufacturer, an ex-Volunteer, and an ardent sportsman.

NEGLECT AT LLANDUDNO.

At Llandudno Evan M'Cannon Jones, Nantygamar, was charged by Insp. Rowlands, N.S.P.C.C., with wilfully ill-treating his child John during the period from Dec. 25 to Jan. 1.—Mr. Parsons, Denbigh, who prosecuted, said the defendant was the father of the child, and was able to earn 18s. to 20s. a week, but would only work enough to enable him to procure drink.—David Jones, brother of the defendant, gave corroborative evidence.—P.C. James said that the wife of the defendant died two years ago in the workhouse.—Insp. Rowlands said that on Dec. 24 defendant told him that he did not know where the child was. On Jan. 1 witness entered defendant's house, which contained one chair and a filthy bed with no covering except a ragged blanket. He had been told the furniture had been broken up to make firewood. There was no food in the house except a very small crust in an old box.—The defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was committed to prison for two months with hard labour.

POOR SCHOOLS RELIEF.

A circular letter has been addressed, with the approval of the Bishop of London, to all the incumbents in the diocese of London, with reference to the annual general appeal to be made on the 14th of July next on behalf of the Poor Schools Relief Fund of the London Diocesan Board of Education. It states that the church collections made for this object, on the above or any other Sunday, will be divided, as usual, between the Diocesan Board and the Ruridecanal Church Schools Associations (where such local bodies are in existence and in active operation), unless any other disposition of them should be desired by the donors. During 1894, 79 grants of money were paid to schools, amounting to £3,416, and a further sum of £940 was granted to 29 schools, which has yet to be claimed. The Diocesan Board are, at the present moment, responsible for the financial management of 20 important church schools in different parts of the diocese, consisting of 53 departments, which, but for their intervention, would have been abandoned. A very large amount has been spent upon structural and other improvements of these schools during the past year, and a considerable grant has to be made annually to each to meet the ordinary charges for maintenance. The Diocesan Board are grateful for the support they received last year, when nearly 250 churches joined in the appeal, and they trust that the response this year will be even more general and liberal.

LIABILITY OF FURNITURE STORES.

A case of considerable importance came before Judge French at Shoreditch County Court. Messrs. W. B. Swire and Co., owners of a furniture store at Hackney, claimed £78 12s. 4d., rent for furniture stored there by defendant, Henry Silverton, a furniture dealer. Defendant admitted that the rent was due, and counter-claimed damages of £30 for depreciation in the value of the furniture owing to the damp. Mr. Salter appeared for plaintiff; Mr. Marshall Hall for defendant.—Judge French said that defendant himself was an expert. He had viewed the premises, and stored the goods there on his own view and responsibility. This relieved plaintiffs of the liability, which they still had to ordinary members of the public. Judgment was given for plaintiff on the claim and counter-claim, with costs.—Notice of appeal was given.

MURDER INCREASE IN AMERICA.

The "Chicago Tribune" has just published its usual statistics of murders in the United States, as annually collected for that journal. They show a great and continuing increase of this crime in that country, and also indicate the mischievous results of the laxity towards grave offenders, which, in regard to prison discipline and in other respects, specially characterises America. During the past year, 1894, there were in the United States 9,800 murders, for which 132 persons were legally executed and 190 were "lynched." In 1893, there were 6,615 murders. Five years ago, in 1889, the number of murders was 3,567. Ten years ago, in 1885, there were 1,808 murders, so that the progress in the decade, from 1,808 to 9,800 murders, indicates a frightful increase of homicide.

WOMAN KILLED IN THE STREET.

At Thames, Henry Huxell, 28, a carman, of Wintrop-street, Whitechapel, was charged with being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart, and further with causing the death of a woman named Maria Stewart, a monthly nurse.—P.C. Dunlop, 410 H, stated that at a quarter past ten on Monday night, while in the Mile End-road he saw the defendant, who was driving a cart. Suddenly a woman, who was crossing the road, was knocked down by the step of the cart. He directed P.C. 409 H to go to the injured woman, and he himself shouted to the defendant, who went on for about 50 yards when he stopped and got down. Witness asked him if he knew what he had done, and he made no reply. On being asked for his name he said, "The old fool should have kept out of the way." The defendant was asked to turn his horse round and go back, but he told witness to do it. While the woman was being got into the cab Huxell said, 'I want to see the old woman, and if I don't I shan't go to the station." The woman was bleeding very much from the head. Witness then found that the defendant was under the influence of drink. He staggered and smelt strongly of drink. Defendant became very violent, and tried to throw witness, but with assistance he was got to the station. When charged he simply said, "Thanks."—P.C. 409 H said he heard a scream and then saw the woman lying in the centre of the tram rails. Her head was bleeding, and at the time of being placed in the cab she was conscious, but she died an hour after being admitted into the London Hospital.—Remanded.

A DESTITUTE HERO.

At the South-western, Mr. M'Gowan, the court missionary, applied to Mr. Denman for some financial help on behalf of a Crimea soldier, George Lambert, aged 70, who was in distress. Lambert served in the 55th Regiment of Foot, and fought in the trenches at the siege of Sebastopol in 1854, for which he received the Crimea medal. He also had other medals for distinguished service, and in 1856 was invalided home, and received a pension of 6d. a day for nine months. He subsequently entered the 3rd Royal West Middlesex Militia, and served in that regiment for 13 years, a portion of the time as an officers' mess waiter, and for five years as a non-commissioned officer. Poverty overtook him, he had to sell his medals, and was driven by circumstances into St. George's Workhouse, Southwark.—Mr. Denman granted a sovereign from the poor-box, and Mr. M'Gowan announced his intention of applying to the Duke of Cambridge "Compassionate" Pension Fund, started for the relief of old Crimea and India Mutiny men, for additional help. The applicant desired assistance to enable him to obtain tools to follow his employment as a birdcage-maker.

THE EISTEDDFOD.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the eisteddfod held at Llandudno it was decided to hold the eisteddfod in the first week in July, 1896, contrary to the advice of Lord Mostyn, who recommended the end of August. The prize for the chief choral competition for 150 to 200 voices was fixed at 200gs. A letter was received from Mr. John Ruskin, who, while recognising the compliment implied to himself by the proposal to offer a prize for the translation of his works into the Welsh language, declined to grant permission to translate, as he had already refused permission to translate into German and French.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Marquis of Salisbury has addressed the following letter to his supporters in the House of Lords:—

"Hatfield House, Jan. 21, 1895.

"My Lord,—It has been announced that Parliament will reassemble for the despatch of business on the 5th of February. The nature of the business which is likely to occupy the attention of Parliament makes it desirable that members of the House of Lords should be in their places at the opening of the Session, and I venture to express the hope that your lordship's convenience will allow of your attendance on that day.

"I have the honour to be

"Your obedient servant,

"Salisbury."

Mr. Balfour has addressed the following letter to the Conservative members of the House of Commons:—

"4, Carlton Gardens, 21st January, 1895.

"Dear Sir,—It is announced that Parliament will meet for the despatch of business on Feb. 5. Questions of the most urgent importance will immediately come up for decision, and I trust that you will find it convenient to be in your place on that day.

"I remain, yours faithfully,

"Arthur James Balfour."

The following letter has been addressed to Liberal Unionist peers by the Duke of Devonshire:—

"Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W.,
Jan. 22, 1895.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to inform you that Parliament will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 5th, when matters of importance will probably come under immediate consideration, and I trust that it may be convenient to you to be in your place on that day.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your obedient servant,

"Devonshire."

Mr. Chamberlain has addressed the following letter to his supporters in the House of Commons:—

"Highbury, Moor Green, Birmingham,
Jan. 22, 1895.

"Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that Parliament will meet for the despatch of business on Feb. 5th, when matters of the greatest importance will come under immediate consideration. I trust that you will be able to be in your place at that date, and to attend continuously during the debate on the address.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. Chamberlain."

Mr. Justin McCarthy, M.P., has issued the following circular to the members of the Irish Parliamentary party:—"Dear Sir,—The session of Parliament opens on Tuesday, Feb. 5. The business of the House of Commons will at once become important, and it is absolutely necessary that every member of the Irish Nationalist party should be in his place. I trust, therefore, you will find it convenient to attend at the opening of the sitting."

"HE AIN'T GOT NO DOOR."

At Marlborough-street Michael Lynch, 41, described as a tailor, of Meard's-court, Wardour-street, was charged with assaulting Elizabeth Walsh, a tailoress. The parties had been living together for some years, and quarrels were frequent. On the 19th inst. the woman asked Lynch for some money to buy food for the children, and, by way of reply, he struck her on the head with his fist, and kicked her on the leg.—Mr. Hannay, after hearing the woman's story, asked her why she continued to live with Lynch if he ill-treated her, and she replied that there were children to be supported. "Yes, I know that," said the magistrate, "but you can lay them at his door." "But, sir," exclaimed the prosecutrix, "he ain't got no door to his lodging-house." (Roars of laughter.)—Lynch was sent to prison for six weeks.

MORE INJUSTICE TO IRELAND.

At a meeting of the Central Branch of the Irish National League, in Dublin, Dr. Kenny, M.P., said that at Mr. Gladstone's door lay the disunion at present existing in Ireland, and to that statesman's other shortcomings should be added the treachery of suddenly retiring from Parliament and leaving the Irish cause in the hands of a band of tricksters. History had repeated itself, and Ireland was now very much in the same position as when it was said of her that she lay as a corpse on the dissecting table. Until they produced union in Ireland on an independent basis, they would get no help from abroad. Worse they could not be than at present. Better they might be by pressing forward.—Mr. John Redmond, M.P., addressed a meeting of his constituents in Waterford on Tuesday night, and was escorted by a procession, with a display of torches and flaming tar barrels. He said Home Rule was in a more precarious condition now than it was 20 years ago. It no longer blocked the way, as in days of yore. The English people now considered the abolition of the House of Lords, or a sweeping reform of it, a greater constitutional question than Home Rule, to secure which a large body of independent members of Parliament should be returned at the next general election.

AN ADVENTUROUS CAREER.

At Guildhall, James Patrick George O'Byrne was brought up on remand before Mr. Alderman Davies, charged on a warrant with obtaining goods from a large number of persons by means of false pretences. Mr. H. H. Crawford (the City solicitor) prosecuted, and prisoner was defended by Mr. W. Campbell.—Mr. Crawford said the accused was arrested by Insp. Abbott on a warrant which was issued on the information of the Rev. C. W. Bassano, of Oldhill, Staffordshire, and others. Mr. Bassano advertised a Yost typewriter for sale. He came into communication with Messrs. Harrison and Co., 29, Paternoster-square. In the correspondence they were described as "importers, exporters, manufacturers of pianos and organs, wholesale and retail, and music printers and publishers." As requested, Mr. Bassano sent the machine on to Eldon House, Peckham-road, where the prisoner then resided, agreeing to accept £14 for it. After that he never heard anything more, and got no money. Since the remand it had come to the knowledge of the police that for a long series of years the prisoner had been carrying on his frauds under about 22 aliases. In 1887 he was in Dublin, and in 1888 he was posing as professor of a college there. From Dublin he went to Gloucester, and again represented himself as the principal of a college. In 1890 he was trading under the name of the Anglo-American Supply Stores, and gave as a reference Messrs. Kent, Byrne, and Co., which so-called firm was no other than himself. Again the accused turned up in Dublin as Harrison and Co., but as matters were getting too warm he returned to London and took up his quarters at 22, Paternoster-row. While there he was in addition supposed to be carrying on at his private address the "British Correspondence College," with 26 assistants, qualifying for the Civil Service, &c. Strange to say, at this time he was unable to pay his rent, and no doubt he was in a dilemma. Then things were no better in the City. From 22, Paternoster-row, he went to No. 13, and from there to Paternoster-square. Among his various aliases was that of the Finance Nationale, with M. Enrybo as manager, this name being that of O'Byrne spelt backwards. While at Paternoster-square prisoner defrauded numbers of persons of music manuscript. At the same time he was opening premises as a fish salesman in Lower Thames-street. He had obtained supplies of whisky at his private address by fraud.—Mr. Bassano was the first witness. He gave evidence in support of Mr. Crawford's statement.—Several other witnesses were called, and the case was again adjourned.

WORKHOUSE WORKING HOURS.

Mr. Wyatt held an inquiry at Peckham concerning the death of Alfred Garrett, 66, a butcher, lately living at Cator-street, Peckham.—Elizabeth Capon, his daughter, said that deceased had been out of work for some time past. He suffered from dropsy, and for the last six weeks had been an inmate of the Camberwell Infirmary. He had very often threatened to commit suicide.—Robert Cresswell, mortuary attendant at the Camberwell Infirmary, stated that about five o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 15th inst., he found deceased lying in the yard. He was placed in a chair and carried into one of the wards. He was naked with the exception of his shirt. The verandah was a bridge extending from one ward to the other, and was between 30 and 40 feet from the ground. Deceased subsequently said that he had done it himself, and "that all would soon be over."—Mary Ann Millen, night nurse, stated that deceased suffered from some affection of the throat, and experienced great difficulty in breathing; he was very excitable, but had never threatened suicide. She left the ward for about five minutes on the 15th inst., and upon her return missed deceased from the bed.—A juryman: Where did you go?—Witness: Into another ward I had charge of.—A juryman: How many patients are there under your care?—Witness: 50; 25 in each ward.—A juryman: Are the wards adjoining?—Witness: No; one is above the other.—A juryman: Is there no one in charge during your absence?—Witness: No.—A juryman: What are your hours?—Witness: From 7.30 p.m. till 8 a.m.—A juryman: And you have no sleep during that time?—Witness: No.—A juryman: It is a scandalous shame that you should have to work 13 hours at a stretch. Fifty patients want a lot of attention, and I do not see how the authorities can expect you to do your duty. You have too many hours and too many patients. I consider this death has been brought about by insufficient attendance. The wards never ought to be left.—Dr. R. Booth, the medical officer, who made a post-mortem examination, found a large tumour in the chest. The cause of death was asphyxia, accelerated by the fall.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst of unsound mind, and added a rider that "They were of opinion that the infirmary was not under proper supervision when the nurses had to work 13 hours right off, and had 50 patients to attend to."—The coroner said he would forward a copy of the rider to the proper quarter.

The Sydney Bankruptcy Court has released the estate of Sir George Dibbs with the assent of all the creditors.

THE STRANGE WILL SUIT.

In the Probate Division Sir Francis Jeune and a special jury resumed the hearing of the suit which has arisen out of the testamentary dispositions of the late Miss Emma Jane Parker Willes.—Evidence was given by witnesses who had been in the service of the testatrix to the effect that her conduct was often very strange, and that she was under a delusion as to poison.—In the result the defendants accepted terms, and the will of 1893 was pronounced for.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Coroner Cuthbertson held an inquest at Neath on Thursday touching the death of a child. It appeared that a family of eight lived in a two-roomed tenement at Melincrythan. The mother went to call a doctor for one of her children, and during her short absence another child with a burning stick ignited the bedding. The sick child, aged nine months, was so severely burned that he died, and another boy of three years received such injuries that his life is despaired of.—The jury found a verdict of death from exhaustion, and expressed an opinion that the house was unfit for habitation.

CLUB RAID IN WARDOUR-STREET.

At Marlborough-street Police Court, Henry Rust, a club proprietor, of Wardour-street, and Lottie Rust, 24, of the same address, were charged before Mr. Newton with keeping and managing a common gaming house known as the New Avenue Club, and George Habijam, doorkeeper, and Victor Smith, 22, waiter, were charged with managing and assisting in the management of the club. Twenty-seven other men, mostly of foreign origin, were charged with using and frequenting the club.—P.-supt. Smith said that at a quarter past 3 on Thursday morning, accompanied by other officers, he entered the club and in a room on the ground floor he found the prisoners, the door having been opened by Habijam. He asked who was the proprietor, and Mr. Rust came forward and said, "I am the proprietor." He came from a table on the left hand side of the room, around which were a number of people, cards, money, and matches being on the table. The tables were covered with green baize. The prisoners were conveyed to Vine-street Police Station and charged. When the charge was read Mrs. Rust said, "I have nothing to do with the club," and Smith remarked that he received nothing for his services.—Cross-examined, the witness said he found £4 14s. on the tables. There was play going on at the time.—Mr. Newton granted a remand for a week, requiring bail in £100 for Rust and in £20 for Habijam and Smith.

NEW BATTLESHIP MAJESTIC.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FLOATING OUT AT PORTSMOUTH.

Princess Louise, who is at Osborne, will, on her way back to town, if sufficiently recovered from her attack of influenza, do the honours at the floating out of the new battleship Majestic at the Portsmouth Dockyard. Otherwise some other member of the royal family will name the ship. The Majestic was laid down on the 5th of February of last year, so that she will be floated five days within the year—a magnificent performance, beating Chatham by six days in the building of the Magnificent. But Portsmouth is determined to do better with the Prince George and Cæsar, for they say there was delay for want of armour plates, Chatham having got the advantage. The Majestic is exactly similar to the Magnificent, with this exception—that the boilers of the latter are arranged by Messrs. Penn to work under Martin's system of induced draught, the air being drawn through by fans near the funnel base, while in the Majestic the boilers are to be worked under the ordinary closed stokehold system of forced draught, and thus the merits of the two systems will be carefully tried in similar vessels with machinery of the same size. The machinery of the Majestic is ready to be put on board. It was made by the Naval Construction Company at Barrow-in-Furness.

LOWMOOR RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

The coroner's inquest was resumed in Bradford, as to the death of Maggie Woodcock, 20, who died in the Bradford Infirmary from injuries sustained in the railway accident at Lowmoor on the 26th ultimo.—James Simpson, foreman porter, stated that at 11.20 on the night mentioned a special train from Leeds entered the station at Lowmoor, and he had instructions to put it on in front of a Bradford special; whilst this was being arranged for, another train from Bradford came up and ran into the last two carriages of the Leeds portion before it had cleared the loop line. Witness said that the guard of the Leeds portion should have known his section was not clear of the loop when brought to a standstill.—W. H. Smith, the driver of the Bradford train, said the loop line signal was off, and, he, therefore, proceeded. He saw the end of the other train on the line, but could not then avoid a collision.—A. Dobson, the pointsman, stated that he got his reply that the line was clear before putting the Bradford train on, but there were no means by which he could know whether a train had run short of a platform.—The jury found that the deceased died from injuries received at Lowmoor Station on Dec. 26. They also found that there had been negligence on the part of the company's servants, but they did not consider the negligence either culpable or criminal.

HUNGARIAN TURKEYS.

At the Mansion House, William Crewe Reid, a poulterer in Leadenhall Market, was summoned by the City Commission of Sewers for exposing for sale 16 turkeys unfit for human food.—The turkeys were seized by a sanitary inspector on Dec. 22, and, in his opinion and that of the Medical Officer of Health, were putrid.—For the defence it was denied that the turkeys were unsound. Their greenness simply indicated that they had been fed shortly before being killed. They had been sold at Billingsgate, and at retail shops all over London, without complaint, and some had been given to hospitals. They came from Hungary, and were sold wholesale for 5½d. per lb., the average weight being 9lb. The journey from Hungary took four or five days. It was the custom to send the birds without being drawn.—One of the witnesses said their not being drawn was no detriment. In a day or two he should be having a consignment of 100,000 birds from Russia—a still longer journey, and he guaranteed that they would all be sound, though, like these, they were not drawn.—Sir H. Knight fined the defendant £10.

ACTRESS BURNED TO DEATH.

At St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Mr. Langham held an inquest respecting the death of Elizabeth Swinton, 15, an actress, who was fatally burned at Gifford-street, Hoxton, on the 19th inst.—Henry John Swinton, a brother of the deceased, stated that on the morning of the 19th the girl was standing in front of the fire in her bed-room, and it was believed that she was curling her hair before the looking-glass. She was only partly dressed, and in turning round her clothes caught the flames and set her alight. She screamed for help, and rushed down the stairs into the street, where the neighbours succeeded in putting the flames out, and the unfortunate girl was conveyed in a cab to the hospital.—Elizabeth Blyth, the wife of a clerk, of 38, Gifford-street, said that she put the flames out. The girl's clothing at the time was very thin, as it was part of her stage dress.—Dr. Frank Colley, house surgeon at the hospital, said that the deceased was extensively burned all over the body, and died the same afternoon from the injuries. She told one of the nurses that she was curling her hair near the fire and her dress caught the flames.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and complimented Mrs. Blyth on her prompt action.

BELGIAN POISONING CASE.

The trial of Madame Joniaux on the charge of poisoning her sister Leonie Ablay, her uncle Jacques van den Kerchove, and her brother Alfred Ablay has been continued in the Assize Court at Antwerp.—M. Deryckmans, cousin of the prisoner, said that M. Faber was not the extravagant man the accused had represented him to be.—M. Van de Putte, agent for the Comte de Bergeyck, Antwerp, stated that he had lent money to Madame Joniaux on the count's instructions.—The evidence of various creditors of Madame Joniaux having been heard, Baron Osy de Zegwaert, Governor of the Province of Antwerp, stated that the accused had asked him for pecuniary assistance in order to save her family from dishonour, which was impending, in consequence of forgeries committed by her brother. She said her husband was not aware of the object of her visit. Witness, who was very much astonished at the request, after some hesitation lent her a sum of money.—M. Gustave Stoops, colonel of Engineers at Antwerp, said he had on one occasion noticed that Madame Joniaux played cards in a very peculiar manner. Her husband always stood behind her opponent's chair. Witness had on several other occasions observed prisoner taking unfair advantage in games of cards. He remembered the accused organising a "snow ball" subscription in aid of a poor family. Witness further stated that Dr. Ruelle one day remarked to him that he had been attending a lady for eight days in accused's house, and could not succeed in diagnosing her malady. When Leonie Ablay died Dr. Ruelle told witness that he suspected foul play, and witness felt strongly disposed to interfere with a view of obtaining a post-mortem examination.—The mistress of a boarding house, a pawnbroker's clerk, a jeweller, and various tradesmen were examined in regard to prisoner's debts and loans.—Lieutenant-general Demarest deposed that the late M. Jacques van Den Kerchove had a slight attack of vertigo before his departure from Antwerp. He was not, however, aware that the deceased was seized with syncope shortly before his death.—The two doctors who examined Alfred Ablay for the Gresham Insurance Company deposed that he was perfectly sound, and that they were astonished when they heard of his death.

At Wicklow, a goods guard fell under a train and was killed.

OYSTERS, TYPHOID AND CHOLERA.

We are informed that the President of the Local Government Board has instituted an inquiry into the circumstances under which the cultivation and storage of oysters and other shell fish around our coasts are carried out. He has taken this step in view of information brought under his notice in a report which was recently submitted to him by Dr. Thorne Thorne, chief medical officer of the board, on the subject of "Cholera in England during 1893," which report is now passing through the press, and will be shortly issued. The medical inspector primarily charged with the inquiry is in communication with departments of Government concerned with the coast line and river estuaries and with other authorities.—In reference to this statement a correspondent writes: The subject of possible communication of disease as the result of consumption of oysters in the raw state is no new one. It has often been suggested as a means by which typhoid fever has been conveyed, and instances have been cited in confirmation of this view; but until recently the matter has been found difficult of proof, because it is by no means easy to set aside all other causes of this disease, and because the chances of a given number of oysters containing infection of typhoid fever are by no means great. On the other hand, oysters and other shell fish are often cultivated and stored in proximity to sewer outfalls, and even when dilution of sewage with sea water is great, entanglement of particles of sewage to the beard and other parts of the oyster must obviously be well within range of possibility. Dr. Thorne Thorne, in studying the question of "Cholera in England during the year 1893," had felt it his duty to lay before the President of the Local Government Board views as to some relation between oysters and other shell fish on the one hand and diffusion of cholera on the other. Enough is known of this report to show that it has become matter of public importance to know precisely what are the conditions of risk or danger that exist, and when these are known it is to be hoped that they will forthwith be avoided, for we cannot afford to discard our favourite mollusc in its uncooked form from either our connoisseurs or our invalids.

SUNDAY CLOSING.

ITS WORKING.

The returns show 2,086 persons, chiefly Cardiffians, left their homes on the first Sunday after Christmas to get drink at the 29 public-houses which are included in the returns. This total is divided between 21 houses in Glamorganshire and eight houses in Monmouthshire, which is under English law. The former had 502 customers during the day, the latter 1,584. Of the 1,584 no fewer than 1,369 were found at Rumney. The other 215 were found at Castleton and St. Mellons, hamlets which lie a few miles beyond Rumney. The 502 bonâ fide travellers were, of course, all "visitors"; of the 1,584, probably very many fewer than the odd 94 were residents in the three hamlets named. The above paragraph is quoted by the "Westminster Gazette" of January 18.

MISAPPLIED GENIUS.

At York, John Leslie Rodgers, stated to be 17 years of age, and described as an accountant, was charged with stealing, between March 29 and Oct. 15, 13s., the moneys of Elizabeth Smith, of Petergate.—The Town Clerk (Mr. G. McClure), who prosecuted, said prisoner was a most extraordinary young man, for, according to his own description, he was proprietor of the "Market-street Advertiser," of the "World's Debt Recovery Office and Advertising Company," "the youngest proprietor of any paper in the world," and "owner of more offices than any other person in Yorkshire." The case he had to submit to the bench would convince them that his operations had been such that he was bound to come into court sooner or later. Prosecutrix, who was employed at the Steam Laundry, seeing an advertisement in the "Market-street Advertiser" with reference to a watch club, agreed to join, and to pay £2 2s. by weekly instalments. A weekly ballot was to take place. The instalments were kept up from March until October, and the sum of 13s. was paid. In the latter month prosecutrix called on prisoner, and he then agreed with her that, instead of the subscriptions being kept up, she should receive a clock in return for the 13s. She waited patiently until December in the hope of receiving the clock, and was then put off with an excuse that the firm was out of clocks. In spite of repeated applications and calls, she was neither able to obtain her money or the clock.—Evidence in support of the charge was then called, and it transpired that prisoner had cards describing himself as "Lord J. L. S. M. Rogers, R.A., successor to the late Lord John Rodgers," and others describing himself as "the champion comedian, whistler, and dancer, and winner of gold cups and medals." It was proved that it had been impossible to deliver letters addressed to prisoner at his Market-street office for several weeks, owing to no person being there to receive them.—The bench decided to convict, but before passing sentence heard a second charge in connection with the "World's Debt Recovery Office." In this case it was alleged that prisoner, having been entrusted with the collection of a debt by a Mr. Dacre, dealer in wringing and sewing machines, Lowther-street, obtained the money, and then absconded without accounting for it. In the course of the evidence it was stated that after his arrest he said, "No debt collector can live without swindling; I wish I had never gone into the business. I have got £100 coming to me shortly, and I intend to pay it all up."—The bench in this instance decided not to convict, and the Town Clerk consequently refrained from troubling them with a further charge of a similar nature. In the first case, however, they found prisoner guilty, and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.—During the hearing of the case it transpired that prisoner is a son of a Mrs. Rodgers, of Leeds, whose husband was formerly a clerk in the York Glass Works. About 10 or 12 years ago the husband deserted his wife, and went to America. Amongst the numerous titles which prisoner had arrogated to himself was that of the "World's Record Breaker" in connection with cycling, he having professed to have beaten all previous records for six-days' road-riding, and to have lowered the record between York and Scarborough established by that well-known York rider, Alec Stott.

METROPOLITAN LIBERAL UNIONISTS.

A meeting of the council of the Metropolitan Liberal Unionist Federation was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Tuesday. Sir Henry James, Q.C., M.P., occupied the chair. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Richard-Chamberlain, H. M. Bompas, Q.C., F. Jesson, and others. A very satisfactory report from the executive committee on the general work of the organisation accomplished within the metropolitan area during the last six months was read. A resolution, moved by Mr. R. Jobson, and seconded by Mr. Sonnenchien, pointing out to the Metropolitan Liberal Unionist Federation the importance of perfecting their organisation in view of the aproaching general election, was, after some discussion, unanimously adopted. Other general business was discussed, and at the close of the meeting Sir Henry James gave an address on the political situation, and the proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks.

ACTION AGAINST A NEWSPAPER.

In the Queen's Bench Division, the case of Roberts v. Moore came before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury. Mr. Thomas H. Roberts, of Woodside House, Brooklands-avenue, Burnley, sued the defendant, Mr. B. Moore, of Palatine-square, Burnley, for damages for alleged malicious interference with plaintiff in his practice as solicitor. The plaintiff's case was that he had for many years practised in Burnley as a solicitor, and defendant was proprietor of the "Burnley Gazette and East Lancashire Advertiser." Defendant had published accounts of trials in the police and county courts, and also local cases heard in London and at the assizes, and since 1891 defendant had systematically adopted the course of reporting the cases on which plaintiff acted as solicitor for the unsuccessful party mentioning the plaintiff by name, but wherever the plaintiff was solicitor for a successful litigant, the defendant either omitted to report the result of such litigation or the fact that he (plaintiff) acted as solicitor for the successful party.—The defendant denied the allegations of the plaintiff.—Mr. Bigham, Q.C., Mr. Shee, and Mr. Bankes were counsel for the plaintiff. Mr. Finlay, Q.C., and Mr. Mackenzie appeared for the defendant.—The defence was a general denial of the allegations contained in the statement of claim. The case was settled by the withdrawal of a juror, and an undertaking to satisfy plaintiff as to the reporting of his cases.

SIR M. H. BEACH AT BRISTOL.

Sir M. Hicks Beach, speaking at a dinner of the Clifton Branch of the Bristol Conservative Working Men's Association, said her Majesty's Opposition were cheerful, sanguine as to the future, confident in their leaders, and united among themselves. Their policy was one of judicious and wise reform, and the same spirit which had animated them would again animate them when they were called upon to take the reins of office.

LORD RIPON AND UNEMPLOYED.

Lord Ripon has sent the following letter to a correspondent who drew his attention to the great number of unemployed workmen in the United Kingdom, and suggesting that the Government should at once grant free or assisted passages to the colonies to those wishing to emigrate, and it is estimated that at least 50,000 are so willing:—"Colonial Office, Downing-street, Jan. 21, 1895.—Sir,—I am directed by the Marquis of Ripon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., in which you suggest the grant by the Government to unemployed workmen in the United Kingdom of free or assisted passages to the colonies. In reply I am to refer you to the letter from this department of the 19th of December, 1893, in which it was stated that Lord Ripon did not think such a measure would be practicable at present, and to inform you that his lordship remains of the same opinion as expressed in the letter referred to.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, Edward Wingfield."

LAST WEEK'S LAW AND POLICE.

(Probate and Divorce Division.)

(Before the President and a Special Jury.)

STRANGE WILL SUIT.

Parker and Others v. Pattison.—This suit had reference to the testamentary dispositions of the late Miss Emma Jane Parker Willes, who died on the 28th Oct., 1893, at Great Baddow, Essex, at the advanced age of 83. Plaintiffs, as executors, propounded a will dated the 1st Sept., 1893. Probate was opposed by the defendant, a relative of the deceased, who alleged unsound mind and non-approval of the contents, he seeking to establish an earlier will. The property in dispute amounted to about £36,000.—Sir E. Clarke, Q.C. (with whom was Mr. Barnard), who appeared for the plaintiffs, said that by the last will almost the whole of the property was given to charitable institutions, amounting to about £25,000. There were certain legacies given to the servants who were in the employment of the deceased at the time of her death. The residue of the estate was left to a lady and gentleman who had not the smallest idea that they were going to be benefited—the Rev. Piers Claughton and his sister, the son and daughter of the late Bishop of St. Albans. The principal defendant was the great nephew of the deceased, who personally had known very little of her indeed. There was originally a plea put on the record that the will was procured by the undue influence of the Rev. Archdeacon Johnson, who has now become the Bishop of Colchester, but that imputation had now been withdrawn. For years he was a friend of the deceased, and he was aware of the circumstances under which this will was made. She made in all four wills, in the making of which she employed different solicitors, not capriciously, but in each case for an intelligent and natural reason. For a good many years she lived at Great Baddow, Essex, she living for over thirty years in the vicarage there. Down to her death she was a careful, shrewd, business woman, but she had one delusion, she thought that some person had been trying to poison her.—The Bishop of Colchester said that when Archdeacon of Essex he had frequent opportunities of seeing the deceased. He was aware that originally he was charged with undue influence, but he had never in any way attempted to influence her with regard to her testamentary dispositions. He took nothing under any of the wills. He used to have conversations with her on general subjects. He witnessed the execution of her last will, and at the time she was perfectly clear. He never had any reason to doubt her testamentary capacity. Once he heard her remark that a person was threatening her life by poison. That was two years before she died, and he observed afterwards that there was no recurrence of these fancies.—Cross-examined by Mr. Bucknill: Have you heard of her hatred for a certain county court judge? Not from her.—What was the peculiar idea she had against Judge Abdy? I don't remember exactly. I only know of the fact that he was against her in some way.—Cross-examination continued: He never heard that this judge used to deliver "shocks" to her. (Laughter.) He never heard of her spitting at people.—Assuming I prove that she did, and that she made strange noises for a lady, would you not be astonished? It would be very unusual, not to say eccentric.—Would you not call me something more than eccentric if I were to spit in your lordship's face? (Laughter.)—The Witness (smiling): Well—.—Sir E. Clarke: The hypothesis is inadmissable.—A note found amongst her papers was then read, in which she referred to the "torments" she had to put up with constantly—"something given me in my tea or food; that there had been no cessation for nearly five years now. No constitution can stand it much longer." Further, she condemned such a "scourge, for nothing was like it on earth, I am sure. . . . I cannot live another year with this excessive dosing, and in mercy I feel my torment will soon end. Not a friend I can rely on, but my Saviour's merits are sufficient."—Adjourned till Tuesday.

LADY AND HER LAWYER.

Hawtin v. Hawtin and Wynne.—Sir E. Clarke, Q.C., mentioned the case of Hawtin v. Hawtin and Wynne, and asked what arrangement had been made in reference to the re-trial of this case.—His Lordship: It will be taken next week.—Mr. Terrell, on behalf of the petitioner, said that his client had not got any money, and he could not, consequently, at present have the case tried again. He might raise some money after a time. He admitted that it was a case which should not be postponed if possible, but his client could not have it re-tried this week or next week, as he had no means.—Sir E. Clarke, Q.C. (who represented the co-respondent) said that his learned friend had mentioned to him what his position was in the case. It would be no advantage to Mr. Wynne to have this case called on and to have no appearance made on behalf of the petitioner. That would not produce the result which he was anxious to secure as early as possible. In view of Mr. Terrell's statement, he would not press the matter forward.—His lordship said that Sir E. Clarke had no other alternative, and he had done all he could to bring the matter forward. He could quite understand that to the petitioner it was a serious thing to have the expenses of a second trial so soon. He thought in the circumstances the matter might be allowed to rest for the present, but there must not be any undue delay.—Mr. Terrell: We will set it down as soon as possible. If we abandon all hope we will let the other side know.—His lordship said that he proposed to take special jury cases towards the end of the present sittings, and he would give every facility for bringing on the case then.—Both Mrs. Hawtin and Mr. Wynne were present in court, and occupied seats at the solicitors' table.

County of London Sessions.

(Before Sir P. H. Edlin, Q.C., Chairman, and a Full Bench.)

A Fight in a Stable.—John Thomas Marshall appealed against a conviction by Mr. H. Curtis Bennett, sitting at West London Police Court, and a sentence of two months' hard labour, for unlawfully assaulting George Sheldon.—Sheldon was a groom in the employ of a Mr. Pearson, milkman, North-end, Fulham, and appellant, a harness maker, rented a room from a Mr. Harrison, tenant of some stables belonging to Mr. Pearson. There had been some ill-feeling with regard to a right of way through a portion of the premises, and on Nov. 15th the appellant went to Sheldon in the stable, struck him on the bridge of the nose, nearly knocking him down, and then hit him twice with his fist. A man named Marryan interfered, and Sheldon took an iron hook, with which he threatened the appellant. The latter picked up a pail of dirty water, and threw it with its contents over Sheldon, who thereupon seized a stable fork and struck appellant. The latter then chased Sheldon into the harness-room, till he was sent out by Marryan.—In cross-examination it was elicited that there had been a good deal of friction between the parties, and that Sheldon had hinted at the appellant being imprisoned in connection with a piece of leather bearing the stamp of the London General Omnibus Co.—At the hearing it was stated that the appellant had been imprisoned for assaulting his wife, and was then under recognisances, which latter was not correct.—Conviction affirmed, with costs.

A Bedford Young Lady's Trouble.—Alfred Clarke appealed against an order made by Mr. E. H. B. Marsham, sitting at North London Police Court, in favour of Alice Maude Turner in respect of an illegitimate child of which he had been adjudged the father.—The respondent stated that she was now staying at Westmeath House, Tottenham, a Salvation Army shelter. She first made appellant's acquaintance in December, 1891, and frequently walked out with him afterwards in the neighbourhood of Bedford, where she lived and where the appellant was foreman of a malting business. In September, 1893, after a walk, appellant took her to the malting house, which was locked, but he admitted himself and her with a key to the office and took liberties with her. This was renewed on subsequent occasions. On Dec. 26 she told the appellant of her condition, and he afterwards gave her several boxes of pills, which she took without effect. On March 27 she was taken by her mother to Ashton-under-Lyne, where her confinement took place. In April she wrote to the appellant at his address, Grafton-road, Bedford, but received no reply. In answer to a second letter, however, she received a communication from a Bedford solicitor, stating that the appellant denied the allegations in her letter. She then communicated with the branch of the Salvation Army at Mare-street, Hackney, and afterwards came to London, and became an inmate of one of the Army's institutions.—A sister of the respondent and two other friends, one of whom a Miss Valentine, had first introduced her to the appellant, gave evidence as to the parties being seen together on several occasions. It transpired that a Salvation Army official called "Capt." Beazley, had "investigated" the matter and visited the appellant at Bedford, when the latter first said he did not know the respondent at all, but afterwards admitted remembering her, but denied anything further. A letter was read from appellant's solicitor, Mr. F. W. Webb, Bedford, repudiating the authority of the "Investigation Department" of the Salvation Army to interfere in the matter, and stating that the appellant knew nothing about the girl.—The appellant entered the box and denied the girl's allegations, but in the result the bench upheld the magistrate's decision, and dismissed the appeal.

Marlborough-street.

Ringing the Changes.—James Brown, 37, of Sylvia-street, New North-road, was charged on remand with attempting to steal 10s. from Mrs. Emily Young, manageress of the restaurant at 5, Oxford-street, on Jan. 11, by means of a trick known as "ringing the changes."—Previously Mrs. Young gave evidence to the effect that about 5 p.m. the prisoner entered the restaurant and asked for a twopenny bun, tendering half-a-sovereign in payment for it. On her handing him 9s. 10d. change he put down another half-a-sovereign, counted out 10 shillings in silver, and asked if she could give him a sovereign for the change. Having been deceived on a previous occasion by a similar trick she immediately locked the door and called a constable.—Another case of the same kind was proved against the prisoner.—Four months.

Marylebone.

Dangerous Racing.—Eight trace-horse boys in the employ of the London Street Tramway Company were summoned for furiously riding horses to the common danger.—P. C. 385 Y said that the previous Saturday in Fortess-road two gentlemen complained that they had narrowly escaped being knocked down by a number of tram-boys who were dashing recklessly, at full speed, down the road. He saw the boys in question making towards him at the rate of about 10 or 12 miles an hour, evidently racing. He ran into the roadway and shouted to them to pull up, but so furiously were they driving that they were unable to do so until they had passed him some distance. Before, however, he had time to reach them one of them gave a shout, and each of them whipped up his horse and dashed off at the same breakneck speed until they reached their stables.—Insp. Wills told the magistrate that these youths made it a practice almost every night to assemble at a certain point after they had finished their day's work, and race to the stables, much to the danger of the public.—Each fined 1s., and 2s. costs, or, in default, 3 days.

Teaching Him His Business.—Three married women, named Julia Hemingway, Eliza Harrison, and Francis Alcock, were charged with being concerned, with another woman, in stealing 9s. 8d., the money of Robert Forbes, landlord of the Buck's Head public house, High-street, Camden Town.—Prosecutor stated that on the previous evening the women entered his house, and having called for some refreshments amounting to 4d., Hemingway tendered what he thought at the time was half-a-sovereign. He accordingly gave her 9s. 8d. change. Almost immediately all the women walked hurriedly out of the house, which aroused his suspicions. Looking into his till, he discovered that what he had taken to be a half-sovereign was a sixpenny piece, and went in search of the women, whom he found just outside the house. Accosting Harrison, he demanded the return of the money, but she blankly refused, saying, "If you are 'Jay' enough to give change for half a sovereign instead of a sixpence, I intend to stick to it. It will teach you your business." A constable was called and she was given in charge. Hemingway and Alcock then each handed witness a florin, saying that was all they had received. They, too, were arrested.—Mr. Mead said he did not believe either of the prisoners intended when they entered the house, to cheat the landlord. They were, however, thieves, and had done a shabby thing, for which they would each be fined 10s. or seven days.

Clerkenwell.

Mercifully Dealt With.—Thomas Badwick, 34, carman, pleaded guilty to embezzling, between Nov. 4 and Dec. 8, £8 3s. 10d., and with embezzling between Dec. 14 and 29 £12 19s., the money of Jane Daniell, milk contractor, White Hart-yard, Holborn.—Mr. Moore for the defence said Badwick had been in the prosecutrix's employment for 13 years, and received 27s. weekly, besides gratuities. He had a wife and four children to support. He had been tempted to embezzle in order that he might meet certain expenses for medical attendance to his children.—The prosecutrix desired the magistrate to take a merciful view of the case.—Bound over to come up for judgment if called upon.

Charge of Libel.—Stanislaus Revschell, London manager of the "Kolnische Volkszeitung" ("Cologne People's Gazette"), appeared to answer an adjourned summons charging him with writing and causing to be published a scandalous and defamatory libel concerning Gustav Opitz, mercantile and financial agent, 46, Queen Victoria-street. A further summons charged the defendant with publishing a libel against Lothar Lehmert, financial agent, also of Queen Victoria-street.—The defendant admitted writing an article two months ago in the "Kolnische Volkszeitung" containing the following passages, which formed the principal part of the libel:—"In the year 1885 there appeared two men in London against whom warrants were out, and of whom one was called Borchardt, alias Schutz, and the other Michael Zucker, alias Sugar. Neither of them could speak English. They therefore took a third partner into the swindling business started by them, and his name was Opitz. A fine trio, indeed, which acquired a name of considerable notoriety as the terror of the export merchants. Of course the firm did not last long, but Gustav Opitz, of St. Helen's, may even to-day be a painful memory to many a manufacturer. . . This house in about two months got by swindling 75,000 marks' worth of cloth, merino, albums, &c."—Mr. Opitz declared that there was not a word of truth in the allegations against him.—He was cross-examined at considerable length, and before the conclusion of the questions put to him, Mr. Horace Smith said it was a case that ought to go before a jury.—The defendant was committed—bail accepted.

Theft of Port Wine.—Thomas Watson, 29, porter, was charged with being concerned with two other men not in custody with breaking into the Fox public-house, Cosmo-place, Southampton-row, and stealing three bottles of port wine, value 9s., the property of George Crowe, licensed victualler.—Between 11 and 12 o'clock on Friday evening the prisoner and two other men were seen to run up from the prosecutor's wine cellar into the bar, and leave the house, Watson having two bottles in his possession. He was followed by a customer named Cameron, who was in the bar, and apprehended. One of the prisoner's companions then came up and dealt Cameron a heavy blow in the face, felling him to the ground. Watson then handed the wine to his companion and ran off. He was, however, followed, and after a smart chase secured. One of the bottles of wine was thrown at Cameron during the struggle. It missed him, struck the wall, and rebounded on to Watson's face, cutting him severely. Three bottles of wine were missed from the prosecutor's cellar.—Remanded.

Thames.

Husband's Strange Delusions.—Mr. Bury, the relieving officer of the Stepney Board of Guardians, attended with reference to the complaint of a woman who wanted her husband summoned for threats. She attended the court the previous day, and stated that he was a dangerous lunatic, and that she went in fear of her life.—Mr. Dickinson directed inquiries to be made, and Mr. Bury now said he found that the man had been for two months in a lunatic asylum, but was discharged eight weeks ago. He seemed to have delusions that men were in the house at night, and he was extremely suspicious of his wife. A further delusion was that he heard angels singing night and day. In the relieving officer's opinion the man was liable to become dangerous at any moment, but it would not be advisable to summon him, as the service of the summons might exasperate him. He had answered all the questions put to him by the medical officer rationally, and the doctor was unable to certify that he was a lunatic.—Mr. Dickinson thought the officer should interview the man again, and when the result was reported to him he (the magistrate) would direct that some action should be taken.

South-Western.

Lazy Husband.—A woman complained that her husband remained in bed until late in the morning, and would not work.—Mr. De Rutzen: I've no power to make a lazy husband into an industrious one, or to get him out of bed at a reasonable hour in the morning. (Laughter.)—The Applicant: What shall I do, then?—Mr. De Rutzen: I cannot assist you.

Alleged Highway Robbery.—John Hammond, 19, a cabman, was charged with stealing a coat and some money from Henry Benson, a potman, living in Surrey-lane, Battersea.—The prosecutor said he was in Queen's-road on the 16th inst. when he received a blow which stunned him. The prisoner and his companions rifled his pockets, and made off with his coat, which was pledged by the prisoner for a few shillings at a shop at Battersea.—Mr. De Rutzen ordered a remand for the arrest, if possible, of the other men engaged in the robbery.

Unworkable Acts of Parliament.—Mr. Jasper Redgrave, a factory inspector, attended the court with reference to a license permitting a child under the age of 11 to take part in a public performance at the Assembly Rooms, Balham.—Redgrave said the license was granted on the day the performance took place, and he received the notice on the day following, thus making it absolutely useless.—Mr. De Rutzen agreed that the service of the notice looked very much like a farce.—The chief clerk mentioned that the whole of the conditions were carried out.—Mr. Redgrave had no doubt about that, but he received the notice after the performance had taken place.—Mr. De Rutzen suggested that Mr. Redgrave should make some representation to the Home Office.—Mr. Redgrave thanked the magistrate, and withdrew.

Croydon.

Water in the Milk.—Harriet Hughes, milk vendor, Causeway, Mitcham, was summoned at the instance of the Surrey County Council for selling milk adulterated with 7 per cent. of added water.—Insp. Martin proved the purchase. He took the milk to the county analyst, who certified that it contained 7 per cent. of added water.—Mr. H. T. Raw, for the defence, stated that his client had been in business for 30 years without a previous complaint, and stated that the apparent presence of water in the milk was due to the fact that the cows during the recent frosty weather had been fed almost entirely on mangold wurtzel.—Fined 5s., and 9s. costs.

Theft from a Brewery.—William Jacks, no home, was charged with stealing, on the 8th inst., from a harness room at Messrs. Nalder and Collyer's Brewery, High-street, Croydon, one coat, one pipe, a pair of gloves, and a cigar-holder, the property of James Marsh.—The prosecutor, who is a coachman in the employ of Nalder and Collyer, stated that about 10.30 on Tuesday night he left his coat hanging in the harness room, and on his return it was gone. Prisoner had called on him during the day and asked for a job. Witness then told him that if he would come in the evening he might be able to get him something to do.—Det. Finch deposed to having arrested the prisoner, who said he was very hungry and had no money to pay for his lodgings. He had sold the things.—Remanded.

A Too Eager Watcher.—John Woolmer, labourer, Chipstead, was summoned for having taken a rabbit from a close in the possession of Lord Hilton, at Coulsdon.—Mr Dennis stated that the wood formed part of Woodplace Farm, which was in the occupation of Mr. Marshall. On Jan 7, in consequence of finding a rabbit in a snare, Mr. Marshall concealed himself and watched the spot, with the result that about 6.30 a.m. he saw the defendant come to the snare and take out the rabbit, on which he disclosed his presence, saying, "Now I've got you."—Mr. Marshall said when he saw the defendant "standing over" the rabbit he made his presence known.—The Clerk: Had he touched the rabbit?—Witness: No, he was bending over it, about to pick it up.—Mr. Raw, for the defendant, said Woolmer was merely passing on his way to work when he heard a rabbit squeal, and went to see what it was.—Dismissed, the complainant ordered to pay 16s. costs.

INQUESTS.

A Suicide's Last Letter.—Mr. Hodgkinson held an inquiry respecting the death of Robert Jordan Mann, 59, overmantel manufacturer, Scales-road, Tottenham.—The widow stated that lately her husband had been a great sufferer from pains in the head. He was also depressed on account of slackness of trade. Formerly he was a master man but of late had worked as a journeyman. On Wednesday he left home at 7 a.m. to go to the City, but at noon she was called to Bruce Grove Station, where she found him in the waiting-room unconscious. He was removed to Tottenham Hospital and she was informed that he had taken poison, but he refused to say why he had done so. A letter addressed to her ran:—"Good bye, and may God bless you and the children. Kiss them for me. The will is at your cousin Richard's. Send to them, and they will see you all right.—With love, from your loving husband, R. J. Mann."—Other evidence showed that deceased travelled from Liverpool-street to Bruce Grove on Wednesday, and when between the last-named station and Seven Sisters he was seen to take a bottle from his pocket and swallow the contents. He sank back in the corner of the carriage, and a fellow passenger then noticed that the bottle was labelled "poison," and had contained aqua fortis. Death ensued the next morning from the effects of the poison.—Suicide whilst temporarily insane.

Mysterious Death of a Wife.—Mr. Drew opened an inquiry concerning the death of Annie Lindsey, 68, wife of a pensioner, of Grove-avenue, Fulham.—Mary Ann Learey, a daughter, stated that on the 28th ult. she went to visit her mother. As she opened the street door she saw deceased lying in the passage at the bottom of the stairs. She was very intoxicated. Witness noticed her leg was bleeding, and, in reply to a question, deceased said, "Yes, I think my leg is broke. He has kicked me." Prior to entering witness noticed the husband going down the avenue intoxicated.—Jenny Stevens, a little girl, stated that on the evening following Boxing Day she "saw Mrs. Lindsey home." She was intoxicated, and fell down three stairs in the passage. Lindsey was on the landing, and commenced to swear at her.—Other evidence was given, showing that the deceased subsequently made varying statements, in one of which she said, "He did not do it."—Dr. Elliott deposed that the deceased had a compound fracture of both bones of the legs. Amputation was resorted to, but she died on Wednesday from exhaustion. The injury did not look as if it had been caused by a kick.—The husband, a licensed messenger, said he knew nothing as to how his wife met with her injuries, as he was not in the house at the time. He was never drunk in his life.—Inquiry adjourned.

Wait Till the 'Bus Stops.—Mr. Troutbeck held an inquest on the body of Philip Jacob Muhlschwei, a Russian tailor, of Rupert-street.—On the evening of Dec. 1 deceased was a passenger from Piccadilly Circus to Baker-street by 'bus. When approaching the railway station at the end of the destination, the deceased, in stepping from the vehicle while moving, fell to the ground, sustaining such severe injuries as to necessitate his removal to Charing Cross Hospital. The evidence was of a very conflicting character, one passenger swearing that the omnibus moved on while the deceased had one leg on the step and the other on the road.—C. Butt, the conductor, averred that the deceased got off in spite of his warnings not to be in a hurry.—Dr. Lockyer, house surgeon, said death ensued on Thursday from cardiac failure, accelerated by the injuries.—Accidental death.

Death after Sliding.—Mr. Lewis held an inquest on the body of William George Kemmery, 9, son of a printer's machinist, of Albert-square, Forest-lane.—The father said on the 11th inst. he went to Wanstead Park skating, taking deceased with him. The latter ran about the ice, and then went on a slide, but slipped down the first time. Witness asked him if he was hurt, and he replied "No," and continued sliding. When they reached home deceased commenced crying, and said his arm hurt him. After breakfast the following morning his mother took him to the West Ham Hospital. On Monday he was much worse, and died in the evening.—Dr. Hinde, of Leytonstone-road, deposed to finding the deceased in a semi-conscious condition, and complaining of headache. The cause of death was inflammation to the membranes of the brain; this might be due to either an injury to the head or to cold and exposure. Witness saw no sign of any exterior injury to the head.—Verdict, died from meningitis, but how caused there was no direct evidence to show.

Sad Story.—Mr. Baxter held an inquest on the body of Emma Groom, 52, the wife of a scene painter, of Grosvenor-buildings, Poplar.—The evidence showed that the deceased was in receipt of 30s. a week from her husband, from whom she was separated. As she had not been seen for several days the police were called, and she was found dead on the floor of her room.—P.C. 367K stated that the room was in a frightfully dirty state, and the stench unbearable. There were some white rats in a cage and a cat. There was no signs of any food about or any fire in the grate.—The coroner's officer said he found 9s. in silver on the dresser and a large number of pawn tickets. There were a number of receipts for rent, &c., pinned on the curtains and stuck over the door.—The husband of the deceased said that he had to separate from the deceased owing to her drunken habits.—Dr. Skell, Brunswick-square, Poplar, deposed to finding deceased on the floor dead, partly dressed.—Death was due to failure of the heart accelerated by alcoholism.—Natural causes.

Servant's Strange Death.—Mr. Drew held an inquiry with reference to the death of Mary Ann Nixon, single, 39, a domestic in the employ of a lady at Parkstone Garden, Earl's Court.—Jessie Pearl, kitchenmaid, said the deceased had only been in her situation four days. She did not complain of anything. On Tuesday evening witness saw her lying in the kitchen in a faint, but she got over that and said she could not account for it. Deceased went to bed at midnight, and at 6 o'clock the next morning she was found dead in the scullery.—Dr. Whitworth, Earl's Court-road, said there were no marks of violence. A post mortem examination revealed a blood clot in the brain and signs of pleurisy in the lungs, and old kidney disease. Death was due to paralysis of the heart due to the rupture of a vessel in the brain the result of the kidney disease.—Verdict accordingly.

Sudden Death.—Mr. Drew held an inquest on the body of John Neate Pocock, 55, of Belle Vue, Surbiton.—It appeared that the deceased for the past five years had suffered from an affection of the throat, resulting of late in a formation. He left Surbiton on Monday to come to London to seek apartments, thinking that a change would do him good. On Tuesday morning he was in great pain and unable to move. Poultices were applied by Edgar Courtenay, an adopted son, and at 5 p.m. he went out to fetch a doctor. Upon his return in half an hour the son found him dead in bed.—Dr. W. J. Heddy stated that death was due to syncope, following cancerous ulceration of the throat and abscess of the lung from blood poisoning.—Natural causes.

Mr. D'Oyly Carte is now completely restored to health, and has regained his usual strength and spirits.

At the Croydon Church Institute last week, there was a large gathering of the clergy of the rural deanery of Croydon on the occasion of the presentation of a silver inkstand to the Rev. George Cornac Fisher, M.A., who recently resigned the post of vicar of Croydon.

MR. BALFOUR IN MANCHESTER.

A SPEECH ON ECONOMICS.

On Saturday Mr. Balfour was present at the annual social meeting and concert of the Manchester and Salford Equitable Co-operative Society, held in the Drill Hall at Ardwick Green. Sir Anthony Marshall presided, and there was a very large attendance. Interspersed amongst the songs were several speeches, and one of these was delivered at the invitation of the Chairman by the representative of East Manchester. Mr. Balfour said he hoped there was no one in the audience so barbarous as not to prefer a good song to even a good speech—(laughter)—and if he thought the few observations he was now going to make prevented them from hearing a single note of music, which they would otherwise have listened to, he should feel that he might have been spending his Saturday evening much more profitably than in addressing them. (Cries, "Oh, no.") But he had been often invited to one of these gatherings by the officials who so admirably managed their affairs. Fortune had been better for them and against him in this matter, for during the 10 years he had represented East Manchester he had never been able to be present at the meeting of an institution whose headquarters were within the four quarters of his constituency. He rejoiced that things had turned out differently on this occasion. (Cheers.) Though his visit had been for the most part of a political character he was glad to be able to divest himself of all the armour required by the party politician, and now on this, the last evening of his present stay in Manchester, to address an audience not composed of political partisans, not called to listen to any political utterances, and not specially interested in their collective capacity at all events, in the settlement of any political controversy. (Cheers.) But he could not conceal from himself that if

Party Politics were Excluded,

and most properly excluded, from treatment in connection with this and kindred societies, yet the very word "co-operation" itself, in some quarters and on some occasions, suggested controversy notless bitter than that which raged around the subjects in dispute between the two great parties in the State. He was called upon by his unfortunate profession to deal largely with controversial matters. He hoped, therefore, they would forgive him if upon an occasion when controversy was not absolutely forced upon him he refused voluntarily to enter into it. He did not mean, therefore, to say a single word upon the subjects in dispute, either within the great co-operative movement or between the co-operative movement and other currents of public opinion. No doubt it was the fact that in the earlier stages of the movement it was anticipated by many persons that co-operation would in the main be productive co-operation, and that productive co-operation was destined to revolutionise and make a very healthful change in the general system of production throughout the country. These hopes up to the present time had not been fulfilled in any very large measure. Production had in the main and co-operation had in the main flowed in other channels than those which certain of the original founders of the movement anticipated. He was not going to discuss whether it was possible to make

Productive Co-operation

what many people once thought it might be. He thought, and had always thought, that if it could be carried out on a great scale, and if we could make the producers and co-operators one body, which was the original scheme of co-operation, we should be able to get rid, without recourse to arbitration, without the unhappy machinery of strikes, without the painful incidents necessary to trade disputes, of a great deal of the difficulty, of the friction, and of the loss which now unhappily attended so many of our great industrial enterprises. We could not flatter ourselves that very great progress had been made in this direction. He did not give up the hopes he entertained when early in life he first began the study of these questions, and he still thought that in some departments of industry we might still be able to see a system of productive co-operation, where the producers and the co-operators would be the same individuals, carried out to a successful issue. (Cheers.) He feared this was travelling far beyond the extremely favourable and successful report of their society now placed in his hands, but he was not one of those who thought that in the present complicated condition of modern society every form of industrial activity was to be carried out through one kind of machinery alone. There was at the present time undoubtedly room for both

Co-operative Distribution

and for private distribution. We could ill do without either. He had no reason to believe that the condition of things would necessarily change. The fact that he saw this audience before him, and that he had in his hand the statement of affairs of this great society, showed that they met a great demand in this city of Manchester; that the demand was a healthy demand; and that it was met in a healthy way. (Cheers.) He saw that in one small branch of their undertaking they had met with no greater success than had other unfortunate persons engaged in the same pursuit. The society was a farmer on a small scale—(laughter)—and like other farmers the society had lost its money. (Hear, hear.) Well, if a society like this could succeed in making farming a profitable enterprise and undertaking, it would be doing a greater, a more extraordinary, and a more beneficial work than any other it was now engaged in, and he did not think they had any reason to complain that those responsible for the management of their affairs had not succeded in doing what so few had succeeded in doing—namely, making a profit out of their farming enterprise. In all other departments their society had been served extremely well by those who were managing its affairs. Both the shareholders and the buyers had had every reason to congratulate themselves that at a time when failure in the commercial world was so common, and success was unhappily so rare, when profits were so small, and industrial difficulties so great, They had tided through the times of difficulty, not only without loss, but with honour, with credit, and with profit. (Cheers.) It would enable the social framework to resist the shocks both of internal revolution and external assault. (Cheers). He could not help saying before he sat down that there was one of the objects aimed at by the society with which he personally had a peculiar sympathy—the advancing of money to members for the building or

Purchase of House Property.

He thought that every social reformer ought to desire to see this object carried as far as possible into effect. He had himself been concerned in the passing of a great measure for Ireland having for its object the advancing of money to enable tenants to buy their holdings. He regarded it as of enormous importance that the number of owners of houses, and, if possible, the number of owners of land, should be multiplied. (Cheers.)—A vote of thanks was subsequently passed to the right hon. gentleman for his address.

D'STRESS IN SOUTH LONDON.

Considerable distress now prevails in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe owing to the large number of men out of work. The St. Olave's Guardians have opened the stone-yards, and in the course of nine days employment was found for something like 2,000 men, who were paid at the rate of 3s. 6d. per day, partly in food and partly in money. The Rotherhithe Vestry is also doing all it can to alleviate the distress by employing men in the stone-yard and on the roads and the St. Olave Board of Guardians have passed a resolution asking the wharfingers to give work as far as possible to the labourers on the south side of the river, and thereby help to reduce the necessity of finding work for them at the cost of the rates. Soup is being distributed by the clergy to the poor, and a large number of children are regaled with a free dinner each week at Dockhead.

CLUB CONCERT.

West-end Amateur Swimming Association.

The fifth annual presentation of challenge cups and medals to the clubs which are connected with this association was made by Mr. H. C. Marshall, at a smoking concert which was held at the Monico, Piccadilly Circus. The hon. sec., A. Greig, in replying to the toast of "Success to the W.E.A.S.A.," said that three more clubs had affiliated with the association during the past season, now making eleven clubs, namely, Clarence, Cavendish House, Delta, Grove House, Kildare, Magpie, Maltese, Tottenham House, Bentinck, Oxford, and Leta, and added that their finances were in a sound condition, their being a balance in hand of £10. The chairman then proceeded to make the presentation, the inter-club championship being gained by the Magpie S.C., the water polo championship by the same club, and the 100 yards bath championship by G. E. Corbett, of the Kildare S.C., C. E. York, of the Magpie, being second. The following artists assisted at the concert:—Messrs. P. Cramer, J. Harmes, A. Metcalfe, C. W. Percy, and F. Cramer.

KENSINGTON MURDER.

Saunderson's Mental Condition.

The Central News says:—Dr. Forbes Winslow, Dr. Edgar Shepehrd, Drs. Blandford and Charlton Bastian have examined and reported upon the mental condition of Saunderson, who will take his trial next sessions at the Central Criminal Court for the Kensington murder.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.

Mr. Troutbeck, Westminster coroner, held an inquest at St. Clement Dane's Vestry Hall as to the death of Samuel Cucommer, 66, a Jewish fruit hawker, who died at the Strand Infirmary receiving ward, Bear-yard, on Friday evening.—Leah Lees, of Nathaniel-buildings, Spitalfields, said Cucommer was her father, and had been an inmate of Charing Cross Hospital a week on Wednesday last. He was very ill with something in his throat, but the nurse told her the doctor said he must be taken away, and she had better call again on Thursday. She asked the nurse to try and get the doctor to allow her father to stay until Saturday, when she would arrange to have him home, but the next thing she heard was a message from Bear-yard on Thursday that her father had been brought there, and was dangerously ill. On going to Bear-yard she found her father unable to speak, but conscious, and the next evening he died.—The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, but several of them made strong remarks, and one suggested a "rider" that the case did not reflect much credit on the management of the hospital.—The Coroner: I think the facts that have been brought out are sufficient.

BARMAN'S PECULATIONS.

At the County of London Sessions, Walter Galloway, 25, barman, was indicted for having stolen 6d. Mr. Paul Taylor was for the prosecution; Mr. Leycester for the defence. It appeared that the prisoner had been for three months head barman at the Oxford Arms public-house, High-street, Camden Town. Before Christmas the landlord, a Mr. Harwood, noticed a decrease in his takings, which was so continuous that he suspected he was being robbed. He complained to the police, and seven sixpences were marked by Det.-sergt. Creswell and paid across the counter to the prisoner by different persons acting in concert with the police. Later on the same day prisoner was confronted by the landlord with the detectives, Creswell and Parsons, and was asked to allow them to search him. He refused, and began fumbling at his pockets in a manner which aroused their suspicions, and they seized him, one on each side. He then became very violent. He afterwards ran upstairs and locked himself in his bed-room. The detectives burst open the door, seized him again, and took him to the police station. Mr. Harwood and one of the detectives returned and searched the prisoner's room, where they found two shillings and eight sixpences, among them being one of the marked coins, hidden between his bed and the mattress.—The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN BROMPTON-ROAD.

At Westminster, James O'Donoghue, a respectably-dressed young man, whose occupation was stated to be that of a porter, at Rosetti Gardens, Chelsea, was brought up, on remand, charged with cutting his throat. At 11 o'clock on the night of Saturday, 12th inst., prisoner was walking along the Brompton-road with a companion, to whom he said, "Wait a minute, Bill." Then, deliberately walking under a street lamp, he cut his throat in two places with a razor. He was taken to St. George's Hospital, and said that he should know better how to do it another time. He would not cut so low down.—Medical evidence was given, after which the Rev. E. S. Cruse, one of the Oratory priests, said that prisoner had been out of work and depressed. Witness was also afraid that he had been drinking lately, but had hopes of his amendment.—Mr. Sheil allowed the prisoner to be discharged, and said that he would certainly go for trial to be imprisoned if he attempted anything of the sort again.

FOOD SUPPLY OF LONDON.

A return of the supplies at the several markets of the corporation last month shows that at the London Central Markets 30,881 tons of meat were received, as against 28,523 tons in December, 1893. Of this quantity 16,729 tons were British meat, 4,936 foreign, 5,133 American, and 4,083 Australian and colonial. At Billingsgate 11,337 tons of fish—8,267 land-borne and 3,070 tons water-borne—were received, as against 12,251 in the corresponding week in 1893. At the Metropolitan Cattle Market, 13,739 cattle, 46,682 British, and 7,340 foreign sheep, 56 calves, and seven pigs were received, and at the Foreign Cattle Market at Deptford 1,043 cattle and 4,244 sheep from the United States, 163 cattle and 3,464 sheep from South America, and 1,063 cattle from Canada came in.

"AN UNLIMITED SHAM."

At Shoreditch County Court on Tuesday, before Judge French, William Jeans, manager of the London and Great Western Drug Company (Limited), was sued by Orrica and Co., wholesale chemists, for goods supplied.—Mr. Moore, who appeared for defendant, admitted that the money was owing, but said that the limited company was the debtor and not defendant.—Defendant, in answer to his honour, stated that the business was formerly his own. He sold it to the company some months ago.—Judge French: How many shareholders are there?—Defendant: Nine.—Judge French: What is the capital?—Defendant: £60. (Laughter.)—Judge French: Did the company pay you any money for the business?—Defendant: No; I was paid 500 fully paid-up shares.—Judge French: This is one of the greatest shams I have ever come across. The limited company is an unlimited sham. I find, as a matter of fact, that the defendant is the company. Every small tradesman in the country could find an easy exit from bankruptcy if this sort of thing were allowed.—Judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.

MARGARINE IN PLENTY.

At Thames, Edward Plenty, of the Daisy Dairy, Redman's-road, Mile-end, was summoned for selling margarine as butter.—Mr. Young, who prosecuted, said the defendant, in order to attract customers, had printed cards circulated to the effect that the holder was entitled to "half a pound of butter and a 2lb. loaf of bread for fourpence." A person in the service of the Mile-end Vestry presented a card, and after being supplied with the butter and bread, Mr Lynes, sanitary inspector, walked in, and said the articles had been purchased for the purpose of analysis. Defendant thereupon snatched away the butter. On Mr. Lynes threatening to give him into custody for stealing the article he returned it. It was afterwards found to consist entirely of margarine.—Mr. Belford, who defended, called his client.—The defendant said he sold the article for margarine, as for 4d. one could not get stuff good enough to be used for cart grease.—Mr. Young: Have you been here before?—Defendant: You know I have.—Mr. Young: I thought I recognised your face.—Defendant: We have had dealings together.—Mr. Young: What have you been here for?—Defendant: I have been convicted for conspiracy to defraud, and am on license at the present time.—Mr. Mead said the case was unlike many that came before him, as here swindling had clearly been proved, and he was satisfied the defendant had perpetrated a fraud. Many persons had doubtless been cheated by him, and the case was aggravated by the fact that the defendant had already been convicted for fraud. The full penalty, £20, would be inflicted.—Defendant: I have not the money and no goods.—Mr. Mead: Then you must go to prison for one month.

DANCE WITH A CORPSE.

A scandalous scene at a wake is reported from Galway. An old rag-gatherer, known as "Kitty, the Rag," died, and a number of men and women assembled at a wake. The place was at once turned into a sort of concert-room. It was soon proposed to have a dance, and an American meat box was placed in the centre of the floor, bottom upwards, each man in turn dancing on it to the music of a tin whistle. At length two of the men lifted the corpse, held it upright against the wall, swaying it to and fro in time to the music, while another fellow came forward, bowed to the corpse as if to his partner, and then commenced to dance a jig. This outrageous spectacle seemed to amuse all present, from the peals of laughter it provoked.

SHORT OF CASH.

At Bow-street, Ralph Blank, a respectably-dressed young man, appeared to a summons, charging him with stealing 5s., the moneys of the Sweetmeat Automatic Delivery Company (Limited).—Defendant was employed by the prosecuting company to repair their machines at the various railway stations. On Jan. 3, a collector in the employ of the company saw the defendant partly inside one of their machines on the District Railway at Charing Cross, although he ought to have been elsewhere. Instead of repairing the machine, as he was pretending to do, defendant was stealing money from the "receiver." The collector heard coppers rattling in his hand, and reported the matter at headquarters. When spoken to on the subject, defendant admitted having stolen 5s.—Mr Young stated that the defendant had been supporting a sick sister. He was on the eve of marriage, and being short of money yielded to momentary temptation. He thought this one of those cases which the First Offenders' Act was passed to meet.—Mr. Lushington took a similar view, and ordered defendant to enter into his own recognisances of £10 to come up for judgment if called upon.

A considerable portion of the extensive poplin and weaving factory of Messrs Pim Brothers, at Greenmount, Dublin, was destroyed on Thursday by fire.

A SCENE IN REGENT-STREET.

At the County of London Sessions, Hettie Milton, 23, was indicted for having stolen a muff and a hat from Emily Dukes. Mr. Slade Butler conducted the prosecution; Mr. Kyd was for the defence. According to the evidence, on the afternoon of Dec. 23 prisoner met the prosecutrix in Regent-street. Prisoner, who was not sober, tore the hat from the head of prosecutrix, and stuck the hat in her lip. She then took her muff and a fur tippet from her and ran away. On Jan. 4 prosecutrix met her again in Regent-street, and gave her into custody.—In her defence prisoner alleged that the articles were her own property, and had been taken from her by the prosecutrix.—The jury, however, found her guilty. It was stated that she had been convicted before, and was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 12 months.

MUSICAL BURGLARS.

At the London County Sessions, before Sir P. H. Edlin, five young men named Clayton, Morris, Bates, Nicholls, and Tarr, who had pleaded guilty at the last sessions of having broken into a music warehouse and stolen musical instruments to the value of £300, and whose sentences had been postponed to give them an opportunity of furnishing information as to the whereabouts of the stolen property, were brought up for sentence. They had refused to give any information.—Clayton was sentenced to 20, Bates to 15, Tarr to 14, and the others to nine months' hard labour.

A HOUSE BOAT.

At West Ham, Mrs. Emily Emerson, of Windmill-road, Brentford, was summoned by Henry Spadaccini, a canal boat inspector of the Port of London, for three alleged offences against the Canal Boats Act of 1877. Defendant is the owner of the canal boat Trafalgar, which, on Jan. 7, was in the Victoria Docks, under the charge of George Payne, who, with his wife and child, slept on board. The boat was not registered as a dwelling, and Insp. Spadaccini on examining the boat, found that the cabin top was defective, and some tarpaulin was laid over it to keep the water off the bed used by Mr. and Mrs. Payne. The cabin was generally dilapidated, the bulkhead, the deck floor, and the steps being broken. Two technical offences, that the boat was not lettered, marked, and numbered, and that the master had not on board a certificate of registration, were also alleged; but Mr. Baggalay said the information relating to these disclosed no offences. But for using the Trafalgar as a dwelling-house, he imposed a fine of 20s., and told the inspector that the defendant was liable to a continuing penalty for every day the boat was used as a dwelling without being registered.

"PIRATE" OMNIBUSES.

MAGISTERIAL WARNING.

At the Mansion House, two men, named Preston and Jackson, were charged with attempting to pick pockets in an omnibus. A City detective named Otway saw the prisoners enter an omnibus in the City, and, watching them, observed them attempt to pick the pockets of several ladies. At Regent's Circus the omnibus turned back, and the prisoners, who seemed on friendly terms with the conductor, returned to the City in it. In all, they made three journeys of that kind. On being arrested Preston assaulted the constable. The omnibus was then driven rapidly away. It was what was called a pirate omnibus.—Sir Henry Knight said these pirate omnibuses defrauded the public in the matter of fares and destinations, and frustrated the police in regard to street regulations. He wondered how the public tolerated them. He sentenced Preston to four months' hard labour and Jackson to two months'.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND "DIPHTHERIA."

At Lambeth, Mr. E. B. Williams, superintendent of school board visitors for the East Lambeth Division, appeared in support of a number of summonses against parents for neglecting to send their children to school. In regard to the case of a girl named Grace Farnham, Mr. Williams said at the last hearing the mother put in a medical certificate stating that the child was convalescent from diphtheria, and was unable to attend school. The next day the visitor (Mr. Church) called upon the doctor, who thereupon handed him the following certificate:—"This is to certify that, in the matter of a certificate, dated Nov. 26, as to the state of health of Grace Farnham, the latter was stated by me to have been convalescent from diphtheria, solely on the mother's statement, as I did not attend the child for that disease, and, indeed, never saw her before I signed the certificate." Inquiries were also made of the vestry authorities, who stated that a case of diphtheria occurred at the house in May of last year. The facts were now under the consideration of the school board. — Mr. Hopkins ordered the parent of the child to pay a fine of 5s.

SPURIOUS COIN.

At Greenwich, Mary Ann Larney, 67, of Addey street, Deptford, was charged on remand with knowingly uttering a counterfeit florin with intent to defraud Charlotte Mitchell, of 26, Addey-street. Mr. W. Lewis prosecuted for the Treasury.—Prisoner owed her landlady a small sum and gave her a florin, which was found to be bad, receiving change. A policeman was called, and prisoner produced from under her bed five other bad florins (two unfinished), which she alleged had been placed there by some one.—Committed for trial.

SAD DEATH OF A COMEDIAN.

Mr. Fred Bawcombe, of London, a member of the Mannon troupe of sketch artists, died in the Royal Hospital, at Belfast, on Sunday, under circumstances of a peculiarly distressing character. A week or two ago he was sitting with a friend on an Irish jaunting car when the horse suddenly moved, and both occupants were thrown on their heads on the macadamised roadway. In Mr. Bawcombe's case erysipelas supervened with fatal effect, but his friend recovered.

A WINDOW SMASHER.

At the County of London Sessions, James Howard, 61, a labourer, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering the shop of Nathaniel Levy, and stealing a soap dish, value 10s.—Mr. Sands, who prosecuted, said that the prisoner took up a stone, threw it at the window, smashing it, and he then abstracted the property in question. He was seen by a boy selling matches, who informed the police.—Warder Cook proved several previous convictions against the prisoner, who was sentenced to four years' penal servitude and three years' police supervision.

PHEASANTS AT 4s. 6d. A BRACE.

Alcester, Warwickshire, has just been the scene of a daring robbery of pheasants. On Monday Frederick Pope, a large fish and poultry dealer, was charged with stealing 123 of these birds, valued at £123, the property of Mr. Clarke, the owner of a pheasant-breeding farm, and further with receiving the birds, well knowing them to have been stolen. Evidence showed that prosecutor lost 228 pheasants on the 17th inst., and on the 19th 123 of the birds were found in the possession of the accused. When arrested Pope said, "I did not steal them; I bought them at 4s. 6d. a brace."—Remanded.

COMPANY OF TURNERS.

The Worshipful Company of Turners gave a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, when Sir Douglas Cox, the Master, presided over a company numbering over 100. Amongst those present were Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Samuel, and Mr. Sheriff Hand, Sir J. Monckton, the Archdeacon of London, the Master Cutler of Sheffield, Mr. Lewis Donne, &c.—The loyal toasts having been given, Dr. R. Turtle Pigott proposed "The Houses of Lords and Commons," and Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P., in responding, said the House of Lords formed part of the history of the country, which existed because it was found to be a political necessity. It could not be destroyed without altering the Constitution of the country; and they should have a care before they carelessly altered that which had existed for so long a period. (Applause.)—The Chairman, in proposing "The Lord Mayor and the Corporation of the City of London," alluded to the encouragement they had received in promoting technical education from the Lord Mayor; and the advice made in skill by the apprentices and journeymen in the craft of turnery.—Mr. Alderman Green responded in the absence of the Lord Mayor.—The Chairman then presented a timepiece to Past Master Edgar Sydney for his services during 11 years as honorary secretary of the Technical Competition Committee.—Mr. Edgar Sydney acknowledged the presentation, and other toasts followed.

A marriage will shortly take place between Miss Peel, the Speaker's eldest daughter, and Mr. Maguire, M.P.

A deputation representing the traffic department of the London and South-western Railway has just had an interview at Waterloo with Sir Charles Scotter, the general manager, for the purpose of presenting him with a congratulatory address upon his having been selected by the Queen for the honour of knighthood. Mr. G. T. White, superintendent of the line, introduced the deputation, which included the Windsor, Sunningdale, Staines, Vauxhall, Brentford, Kingston, Hounslow, and other station-masters.

TEACHING UNIVERSITY FOR LONDON.

Lord Rosebery on Tuesday received in Downing-street deputations on the subject of the report of the Gresham Commission and the establishment of a teaching university for London. The first deputation was introduced by Professor Huxley, who said they accepted the recommendations of the Gresham Commission, and asked the Government to grant a statutory Commission to frame statutes in general accordance with these recommendations and with power to make such modifications as might seem expedient. They were all of one mind in desiring the formation of one gigantic university in London by the voluntary co-operation of the various institutions for learning, teaching, and examining which independently co-existed in London, and also the appointment of a statutory commission as an instrument for effecting such an organisation. Several other members of the deputation having expressed similar views, Lord Rosebery said he was not at that moment in a position to make any definite announcement as to the intentions of the Government; but the Government attached great importance to the report of the Gresham Commission, and thought the present time offered a favourable opportunity for the appointment of a statutory commission. He could not think the desire of the deputation unreasonable; but he had to receive another deputation that day who took a different view and they had also to hear the judgment of the Convocation of London University on the subject before he could announce the decision of the Government, which, however, would be made known within a few days. Later in the day Lord Rosebery received two deputations who opposed the Gresham Commission scheme, but on different grounds. These deputations were introduced by Mr. F. Moulton, Q.C., M.P., who urged the desirability of doing nothing to destroy or weaken the position of the existing London University as a unique examining board. Mr. Bompas, Q.C., stated the views of the first of the two deputations, which were very much those set forth by Mr. Moulton. Dr. Collins presented the case of the second deputation, who advocated the amendment of the Gresham scheme so as to secure the impartial character of the examinations, and give no advantage to collegiate over non-collegiate students. Lord Rosebery expressed the opinion that the views expressed by Dr. Collins might be met by the statutory commission. The second deputation went so far as to insist on an essential incompatibility between a teaching and examining university, a doctrine which he could not accept. He thought that, by obtaining some standard of examination not lower than that hitherto maintained, and at the same time providing a teaching University for London, the Government would be doing their best for London and for the Empire, and their convictions pointed in the direction of the appointment of a statutory commission for framing such a scheme.—At an extraordinary meeting of the Convocation of London University, held on Tuesday, under the presidency of Mr. E. H. Busk, resolutions moved by Professor Silvanus Thompson, generally in favour of the scheme of the Gresham Commission, but asking that the statutory commission should have power to vary the details of the scheme, were carried, after a lively discussion, by majorities of 21 and 24 respectively.

COL. MONEY'S MURDER.

The Allahabad "Pioneer" gives the following as the authentic version of the murder of Col. Money, of the 9th Bengal Lancers, at Muridki, on the 20th ult. All the officers were dining together in a tent, when, about half-past 7 o'clock the report of a gun was heard apparently from the direction of the first squadron. A sowar then ran in, and reported that a native officer had been shot. The officers rushed out and hastened to the spot indicated. The night was pitch dark, and in a few moments a second shot was fired. For an instant no one was thought to be hit, but one of the other officers stumbled over a body, which was found to be that of Col. Money, shot through the breast and dead. Orders were then given to fall in, lanterns were procured, and native officers were told off to examine the carbines of all the men on guard. At this point the devotion of the men to their English officers was strikingly shown by their grouping themselves around them, and thus shielding them as far as possible from danger. Meanwhile Jemadar Ayoub Khan came across a man running with a carbine in his hand. The jemadar called him, when he fled, and the jemadar at once took up the pursuit. Ayoub Khan is described as a giant in stature and a splendid specimen of an Afghan, and he was rapidly overtaking the fugitive when the latter turned and fired his carbine in the face of his pursuer. Ayoub was fortunately able to strike up the weapon, and held the criminal in his grasp until others reached the spot. His courage and coolness were pronounced above all praise, which is not surprising considering that he was one of the picked men of the Indian Army who escorted Sir Mortimer Durand on his mission to Cabul. The murderer was Duffadar Kartar Singh, son of the Ressaldar Major who helped the celebrated Hodson to raise this very regiment. The origin of his crime was the rage of the culprit engendered by the stopping of his promotion on account of gross misconduct in the Lahore camp.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE SUEZ SHARES.

In 1874, when Sir Bartle Frere was at Cairo, he got the news of the purchase of the Suez Canal shares by the Conservative Government. Dr. Badger wrote to him:—"Hurrah! you will remember how, three years ago, you and I endeavoured to press the purchase on the Government, at a time when it might have got all the shares of the sharehold dirt cheap, as the saying is. But Mr. Gladstone would have nothing to do with it. Let delators talk as they will, our influence over Egypt will be vastly strengthened by our possessing so large a share in the Suez Canal."—"Life of Sir Bartle Frere," by J. Martineau (Murray).

BRITISH IN EAST AFRICA.

At a special meeting of the shareholders of the Imperial British East Africa Company, held at Winchester House, the proposals of the Government for the surrender of the company's rights and interests in East Africa were considered and adversely criticised by many speakers. A resolution was ultimately passed with two dissentients declaring that the meeting was unable from the information before it to estimate the value of the Government proposals, and urging that a joint committee of representatives of the Government and the directors should be appointed carefully to investigate the matter, so as to ascertain the precise meaning and effect of the proposal of the Government on Nov. 14 last.

DISCHARGED.

At Marylebone, May Staley, 23, an actress and the wife of a commercial traveller, was charged on remand with having maliciously set fire to the furniture in a house she and her family occupied at 9, Donaldson-road, Kilburn, the property of Lewis Page, of Alexander-road, Selhurst.—Mr. Angus Lewis, representing the public prosecutor, now said that the facts of the case had been carefully gone into and considered during the week, and it was thought that the evidence was not sufficient to justify the case being gone on with.—Mr. Freke Palmer, who defended, observed that the prisoner had been in custody the whole of the week, not having been able to find the required bail. She was an actress and had a travelling company of her own, and she had suffered severely in this matter, as she was under engagements in the provinces which she had not been able to keep.—Mr. Plowden ordered the prisoner to be discharged.

RADICALS AND PROTECTION.

It is interesting to note that some of the Radical candidates for Parliament are not above reverting to Protection. This is what Mr. F. W. Wilson, the Radical candidate for Mid-Norfolk, said at the annual dinner of the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture:—"For years past the plain issue had been obscured by advice to grow jam, and to do this or that; it had been more than hinted that farmers did not know their own business, whereas they were certainly as good as those of any other country; but they had now got down to the square fact that low prices were the cause of the depression. It was a bad look out; what could be done? Bimetallism was one proposed remedy. . . . On the other hand, Mr. Wing Gray had proposed a definite remedy, and that was an endeavour by legislation to raise the price of barley. That struck him (the speaker) as a sensible thing, well worth talking about. Nearly all the public men of this country were opposed to a tax on food, or lacked at any rate the courage to say they were not; but there was no man in the kingdom, Liberal or otherwise, who objected to a tax on drink, unless it was the brewer. If Mr. Gray could show the community a business-like and sensible way of raising the price of English barley, there was not an elector in the kingdom who would object to it. What he always said to farmers was, 'Why on earth can't you agree on one thing?' There was nothing in Liberal principles which was opposed to a tax on drink, and if the farmers would all go for that one thing, he believed they could carry it through." (Mr. Gray—"Hear, hear, that would put 5s. a quarter on barley.")—"Norwich Mercury, Jan. 12, 1895.

The Marquis of Lansdowne will make his first appearance on a Conservative platform on Tuesday, when he will address a meeting at Calne.

FELIXSTOWE TRAIN WRECKING.

The trial of four labourers named Harry Howell, Ernest Newman, James Howell, and Frederick Chapman, for wilfully placing blocks of wood on the Great Eastern Railway line near Felixstowe on Nov. 22, with intent to wreck an express, took place at Suffolk Winter Assizes, Ipswich, before Mr. Justice Mathew. In the result Harry Howell, Ernest Newman, and Frederick Chapman were each sentenced to six months' imprisonment. James Howell was discharged, no case having been made out against him.

OUTRAGE ON A BRITISH SUBJECT.

Full details are telegraphed by the Constantinople correspondent of the "Daily News" of the arrest of Mr. Cobb, the British postmaster there. The messenger in whose behalf Mr. Cobb interfered was an Armenian, in the service of the British Post Office. He was arrested while carrying the post-bag, the pretext being that he had tried to pass a bad coin. When Mr. Cobb arrived at the guard-house whither the prisoner had been taken, he found that the bag had been emptied and the letters taken possession of by the Turks. He himself was made a prisoner in consequence of an attempt on his part to recover them. Mr. Cobb was not allowed to go until application had been made to the chief police station by a representative of the British Consulate. He, however, succeeded in obtaining the release of the Armenian, who in the meantime had been brutally beaten, and in recovering the letters. The incident has since been settled. The Ottoman Government has expressed regret for the mistake made, and has ordered the captain who made the arrest to be dismissed. The Government has also agreed to pay a small compensation to the Armenian postman employed by the British Post Office.

AFFAIRS IN WEST AFRICA.

The steamer Benin, from West Africa, brings news from Akassa, at the mouth of the Niger River, dated the 12th ultimo, that the French gunboat Ardent, which went ashore at Ibo while crossing the river, was not likely to have water enough to refloat for nine months. Her Majesty's ship Barossa was despatched to her assistance, but was unable to reach the place. A visit was made to the Ardent, however, in a shallow draught vessel belonging to the Royal Niger Company. Should the Ardent remain for so long as is expected, the health of her numerous crew is likely to suffer considerably. At Lagos it was ascertained that good progress was being made with the survey for the railway, notwithstanding some hostility from certain of the natives. The revenue of the Lagos Colony in 1894 was estimated at £135,000, about £20,000 over that of the previous year. The estimated revenue of Sierra Leone in the same year was £106,815, being very slightly in excess of that of 1893.

JUDGE FRENCH AND THE POLICE.

At Bow County Court, Henry Mitchell, a foreman in the service of Messrs. Pearce and Co., contractors for the Blackwall Tunnel, claimed damages for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment from Henry and Catherine Moss, greengrocers, Brunswick-street, Millwall.—Mr. Young appeared for the plaintiff; defendants were not represented.—Mr. Young said the action arose out of a charge preferred against plaintiff at the Thames Police Court on Boxing Day. Plaintiff had been a customer of defendants. On Christmas Day he purchased some celery and fruit from the female defendant, and tendered half a sovereign, receiving 8s. 4d. change. He was afterwards given into custody by the female defendant, who declared that plaintiff had not given her a half-sovereign at all, but a South American copper coin. A constable was called and plaintiff was taken to Poplar Police Station, where he was detained from 3 p.m. till past 11, thus losing his Christmas dinner and giving great pain to his family, who did not know where he was. He was charged next day at the Thames Police Court, and the case was dismissed.—Plaintiff gave evidence as to the circumstances attending his arrest.—Judge French: Where is the copper coin?—Mr. Young: It is in the possession of the defendants.—The coin was then produced.—After examining it his honour directed the attention of the jury to it, saying that it was impossible to believe that defendants could, under any circumstances, have mistaken such a coin for a half-sovereign.—The constable, 300 K, who arrested plaintiff, was then called to give evidence.—Judge French: Did you see the coin?—Witness: Yes.—Judge French: And do you think anyone could possibly take it for a half-sovereign?—Witness: They might in a hurry. (Laughter.)—Judge French: And did you lock up a respectable man on such flimsy evidence as this? It is simply monstrous. Who took the charge at the police station?—Witness: Sergt. Collins, in the absence of the inspector.—Judge French: And he dared to keep a man for eight hours in a police cell on evidence like this. I never heard of such a thing. It is abominable. In summing up, his honour said the plaintiff had acted very rightly in bringing this action to clear his character, and in asking for merely nominal damages. The worst offenders over the whole business were the police, and their conduct passed all comprehension. The officer who took the charge at the police station failed grossly in his duty, and could not have attempted to use that discretion which a police officer was supposed to have.—The jury at once gave a verdict for the plaintiff for 40s. damages, and stated that had the plaintiff sought a higher amount they would have awarded it.—Judge French, on the application of Mr. Young, gave costs on the highest scale.

HACKNEY DOCTOR'S MISTAKE.

Dr. Westcott held an inquiry at Hackney, touching the death of Henry C. Davies, a medical practitioner, 37, of Mare-street, Hackney. He had been a martyr to neuralgia for a long time, and was accustomed to taking opium pills and a medicine mixture containing strychnine.—Dr. George Slimon said that on the 18th inst. they were sitting in the consulting-room, when deceased said he felt bad. Witness gave him sal-volatile and a little ether, and this relieved him. In a few minutes deceased again complained of feeling bad, and he had a convulsion. An emetic was offered him, but he refused it. He was laid on the floor, and whilst there, in answer to a question by witness, the deceased said, "I have taken four doses of my medicine instead of one." Witness at once asked what the medicine was, and he replied "Strychnine." Witness was sure that deceased had not committed suicide, as he was neither in pecuniary or other difficulties.—Accidental death.

CHARGE OF BLACKMAILING.

At Westminster, a young man named Henry Turner, giving an address at Clifden-road, Clapton Park, was charged on remand with writing menacing letters, demanding money, to Mr. Walter Hugh Silver, of Ebury-street, Pimlico.—Mr. Silver, who was described as a merchant, deposed that he had known prisoner about five years, the youth having formerly been in his firm's service as a clerk. Witness had befriended accused at various times, the same as he had other clerks. He had invited accused to Brighton, where he at one time had a residence, and had assisted him with small sums of money, defendant having asked for pecuniary help to start him in a little shop, &c. Last month defendant's letters to witness assumed a different tone, and for the first time a charge was formulated and threats of exposure made. Witness, who had been ill and unable to attend to business, was so mentally distressed and terrified that he sent the prisoner sums of £3 and £2, but the extortion continued, with more violent threats, one letter stating that he (accused) had been to the North London Police Court to get process, and that he was asked to furnish a description of the person whose arrest he desired. Another communication said he (prisoner) was still willing to come to an arrangement.—Mr. Dutton, who prosecuted, asked prosecutor whether, in addition to the letters, he had not been followed and hunted by prisoner.—Witness: Yes. His practice was to come and wait outside my place and to send notes by messengers demanding money.—Prisoner adopted a line of cross-examination which Mr. De Rutzen several times warned him was no answer to the charge, but in fact aggravated it.—Prosecutor denied various allegations made to him as to alleged misconduct at the Grand Hotel at Brighton and other places. He admitted that he took prisoner to lunch with him and that they walked on the pier and on the front together.—Re-examined by Mr. Dutton, Mr. Silver gave the most emphatic denial to the allegations made by prisoner, and said that the money given to him was simply out of sympathy and good nature.—Det.-insp. Church and Sergt. Jones, who arrested the prisoner at Clapton, proved that he had in his possession a draft of one of the menacing letters. The officers said that the statements contained in the letters that the prisoner had applied against the prosecutor at the North London Police Court were wholly untrue.—Committed for trial.

Mr. George Clausen has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy.

The Parnellite members of Parliament held a meeting on Thursday, in Dublin, to arrange as to the policy that they should adopt in the coming session of Parliament. The proceedings were conducted in private.

OUTRAGE ON A BLIND MAN.

At Bow-street on Monday, Michael Fitzgerald was charged on remand, before Mr. Lushington, with assaulting Thomas Percy Gooding, a blind man. The allegation was that the prosecutor's face was burned with a match and his eyes injured by two persons, of whom the prisoner was one.—Mr. Lushington inquired whether any compensation had been offered.—Prosecutor stated that some one had offered him half a sovereign that morning.—Mr. Lushington observed that this was wholly inadequate.—Prisoner said that no compensation had been offered on his account, as he thought to offer it would be to admit his guilt. He had endeavoured to find Dr. Bridgeforth, but could not. He thought if the case was adjourned he should be able to find him. He would like to know what compensation the magistrate thought proper.—Mr. Lushington said the man had been grossly assaulted, and ought to receive £5. He should settle the case that way.—The prisoner tendered a £5 note to the prosecutor, and Mr. Lushington said that it had been clearly proved that he took part in the assault, and fined him £3 or one month in default.

RADICALS AND THE LORDS.

One cry of the Radicals is that "the Lords exist for the purpose of preventing the Liberal Government from placing laws upon the Statute Book" (see George Trevelyan's speech at Glasgow, Jan. 15, 1895). On the other hand, the National Liberal Federation boasts in its report, issued last week, that the Government have passed "four important and useful bills" affecting Local Government, and that "a large number of other valuable bills also received the Royal Assent." The same Federation also lays claim, in a leaflet entitled "Two Years of Liberal Government, 1893-4," that "few Governments have passed a greater body of important legislation in a single session." Is it an unfair conclusion to draw from these two statements that, if Sir George Trevelyan speaks the truth, the National Federation cannot lay claim to its asserted wealth of important and valuable legislation? or, on the other hand, that if the National Liberal Federation's statement is a fact, then Sir George Trevelyan's is not? For it cannot be denied that either there has been no legislation at all, or that it is by the Lords' action that the existing legislation has received the Royal Assent.

WEARIED OF LIFE.

At the County of London Sessions, Richard Leyton, 31, draughtsman, pleaded guilty to attempting to kill himself. Mr. Foley prosecuted.—Dr. Hutchinson said that the prisoner when brought into the station said that he had taken a drug. He was sent to a hospital, where he was detained three or four days.—P.C. 347 N said that in the early part of last year the prisoner had attempted to commit suicide by taking laudanum in the neighbourhood of Hornsey. He was arrested, and sent to one of Mr. Wheatley's homes, but on the 12th of May he jumped over Blackfriars Bridge into the Thames. He was then taken to a home at Acton, but last month he again took poison, and was arrested.—The learned chairman said that the leniency with which the prisoner had been treated had evidently not had the desired effect, and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment as a second-class misdemeanant.

UNFORTUNATE PROSECUTIONS.

In two cases at the North London Police Court, the County Council failed in prosecutions for infractions of the Building and Management Acts for the metropolis. Mr. Gluckstein, a builder, was charged with erecting a temporary stage without the consent of the council.—Mr. Lane, the magistrate, came to the conclusion that it was a permanent structure, and, therefore, not within the scope of the summons.—Mr. G. Jackson, also a builder, was charged with filling a triangular space with stables; and the council claimed that, as a public road, it should be 40ft. wide from end to end, and open at each end.—Mr. Lane, after seeing the place, said it was not intended for carriage traffic within the meaning of the Act.—The summonses in both cases were dismissed.

DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.

On Monday in the Mayor's Court, before the Common Serjeant (Sir Forrest Fulton, Q.C.) and a jury, Miss Minnie M. Biner, a lady telegraphist employed at the Central Telegraph Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, sued Mr. W. Taylor, who trades as the Atlas Parcel Express Company, to recover damages for personal injuries sustained in consequence of the alleged negligence of the defendant's servants. Plaintiff was knocked down and run over by one of the defendant's vans whilst walking along Aldermanbury, City, in the direction of the Post Office on Sept. 29 last. Her case was that she was walking along the roadway, and the defendant's driver, going at a rapid pace, drove into her from behind. She was rendered unconscious and, in consequence of the shock and injuries she sustained, had been unable for some months to follow her occupation.—The defence was that the accident was attributable to the plaintiff's own negligence in attempting to cross the road just as the van reached her.—The jury found for the plaintiff, and awarded her £170 10s.—Judgment was given accordingly, with costs.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACTION.

At Bow County Court, before Judge French, Patrick Mahony, a dock labourer, of Canning Town, claimed damages from the Millwall Dock Company for personal injuries sustained through the alleged negligence of defendants' servants. Mr. Sturgess appeared for plaintiff; Mr. Blunt for defendants.—Plaintiff gave evidence that he was in the service of the defendant company on Nov. 1 last. He was told by a foreman named Jarley to unstack a pile of wood and remove it to a van. On either side of him were similar stacks, that on his left being about 13ft. high. He complained to the foreman that this stack was not properly piled, and was unsafe, and was told by the latter to mind his own business, and "if he did not like it he could clear out." Soon after that part of the pile fell on him, injuring him severely.—Mr. Blunt said defendants' case was that plaintiff was guilty of contributory negligence. If plaintiff saw the piles were unsafe it was his duty to remove them.—Judgment was given for plaintiff for £40, the full amount of damages claimed, with six guineas doctor's expenses, and costs.

A MAIDENHEAD RELIC.

A curious discovery was made on Monday by a labourer, who was searching amongst a heap of rubbish near Maidenhead Railway Station. He found a human hand and foot of rather remarkable appearance, and at once informed the police, who took the remains to a local doctor for examination. This gentleman gave it as his opinion that the remains were those of a mummified Egyptian lady. On Tuesday morning Supt. Taylor proceeded with the hand and foot to London, to lay them before Dr. Budge, of the British Museum. The latter expert, after a careful examination, confirmed the opinion of the Maidenhead doctor, and declared that the linen with which the remains were bound was of very fine texture, and dated back to about 1,000 years B.C. It is not yet known how the remains came amongst the rubbish.

SINGULAR CHARGE.

Robert George Tucker, 40, clerk, of Exeter, was, at Kingston, charged on suspicion with having on Jan. 12 placed a sleeper on the railway between Cobham and Effingham Stations, with intent to wreck the 5.28 passenger train from Waterloo to Guildford. Prisoner was formerly a signalman at Esher Station, but on being reduced left the service. He was seen at Esher Station shortly before four o'clock on the 12th. The guards of the engine embedded themselves into the sleeper to the depth of three inches, and carried it three-quarters of a mile to Effingham Station. Neither the engine nor train was damaged, but the shock was felt by the driver and passengers.—Remanded.

COVENT GARDEN OBSTRUCTION.

At Bow-street, Thomas Frohock, Charles Champion, William Eames, Henry Lewis, jun., John Grover, William Grove, and Arthur Sole, salesmen, occupying shops in James-street, Covent Garden, appeared before Mr. Lushington, to adjourned summonses charging them with causing an obstruction and inconveniencing the public by allowing vegetables, &c., to stand in the roadway opposite their places of business for a longer time than was necessary for loading or unloading. The prosecution was undertaken by Mr. Blanchard Wontner.—Each defendant fined 20s. and 10s. costs.

THEFT BY A BAKER.

At the County of London Sessions, Frederick Butts, 24, baker, pleaded guilty to stealing an overcoat and other articles, value £2 8s., and the sum of £1 16s., the property and moneys of John Hails. Mr. Fishbourne was for the prosecution.—Prosecutor, a fellow-servant of the prisoner, missed, on January 3, the property from a locked box in his bed-room, to which the prisoner had access. He was arrested two days afterwards, wearing some of the clothes and with a pawnticket upon him relating to the rest.—A previous conviction for burglary was proved, and he was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour, to be followed by 18 months' police supervision.

Mr. Frank Romer, son of Mr. Justice Romer, was married at Bayswater to Miss May Walker, daughter of Mr. J. Banson Walker, of Kensington Park-road.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In the last 200 years France has spent £993,000,000 in war.

Out of every 100 lives insured in England only five are women.

Mr. Asquith will give his presidential address to Cambridge Liberals on March 20th.

Mr. Walter Glynn, of Liverpool, has been elected President of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom.

Starfish are found at almost every depth in the sea. Some have been drawn up from 2,000 fathoms.

The Goldsmiths' Company has given a donation of £100 to the North-eastern Hospital for Children, Shoreditch.

The registered membership of the Society of Friends throughout the world is 107,163, an increase for the year of 1,229.

The raspberry was introduced into England from Virginia in 1696. The cherry was introduced from the eastern shores of the Black Sea at a very early date.

The schooner J. C. Swindlehurst, while coming into the Mersey, collided with the steamer Verona, outward bound, and sank. Two of the crew were drowned.

The late Sir Bernard Burke is reported to have said that over half the crests and coats of arms borne by families in this country and America are fictitious.

Dead bodies, when taken as cargo on a ship, are always described as either statuary or natural history specimens, owing chiefly to the superstition of sailors.

New Zealand has set apart two islands for the preservation of its remarkable wild birds and other animals. Thereon all hunting and trapping are forbidden.

According to an English authority, no fewer than 200,000 horses have been imported into England for hunting and harness purposes during the last 12 years.

A letter has been received from Sir Edward Watkin, resigning the chairmanship of the East London Railway Company, but retaining office as director.

On the advice of the Home Secretary, the Queen has approved the assignment of a salary of £1,500 a year to Sir Peter Edlin, chairman of the London Quarter Sessions.

The reformers of the English Church in 1549 struck out nearly 100 holidays, leaving only such as in their time were dear to the popular heart.

The certificates and prizes won by the students at the evening classes at the People's Palace, Mile End, will be distributed early next month by the United States Ambassador.

There is a vast difference between day poaching and night poaching—in the latter there must be an actual taking away of game, but in day poaching it is only necessary to prove intent.

Three banks, in addition to the Mercantile National Bank of New York, are sufferers by the bond forgeries for which the broker Quigley has been arrested. The losses amount in all to £8,000.

The local groups of the General Association of German Women have created numerous bureaus of information and employment. More than 600 women were supplied with places in Berlin in 1893.

As in China, the Japanese theatre is open all day, and the presentation of a heroic national play occupies a very long time. Devotion to duty is almost the unvarying theme of dramatic representation.

A sanguinary fight has occurred near Hennessy, Oklahoma, between a sheriff's posse and a band of outlaws. Four of the latter, including the notorious Bill Doolin, and two of the posse, were killed in the encounter.

Conscience-money again. The Chancellor of the Exchequer acknowledges the receipt of the first halves of Bank of England notes, value £45, from "'B. H. A.,' on account of income-tax."

A French railway has lately arranged its telegraph lines so that at a pre-arranged signal the wires are switched from the telegraphic instruments to telephones, thus enabling the operators either to talk verbally or to communicate by the telegraphic code at will.

The age of the art of staining or painting glass windows is about six or seven thousand years, with an origin in Egypt. From there it came to France, and we in turn obtained it from there. The oldest window in England is dated 1174, and is in the choir of Canterbury Cathedral.

On Monday a serious fire broke out in Kentish Town-road, N.W., upon premises occupied by Mr. M. Prothew, confectioner. The building was entirely gutted. An old lady named Caney in effecting her escape sustained a broken ankle, and had to be removed to an hospital.

The Duke and Duchess of York have accepted an invitation to visit Sheffield in May and open a new block of buildings in connection with the public hospital and dispensary. The cost of the enlargement is £50,000, one half of which has already been subscribed, the Duke of Norfolk being one of the most liberal patrons.

The Baptist churches of the metropolis have under consideration a scheme for the formation of what is practically a sustentation fund. The proposal is that every accredited minister in the Baptist Association shall receive not less than £100 a year if unmarried, and £150 a year if married, with £25 a year additional for every dependent child.

Maj. A. Hume, late of the 101st Bengal Fusiliers, an officer who has seen much service in India, has just died at his residence in St. John's Wood. He was first engaged in the Sutlej campaign in 1846, and was wounded at the battle of Sobraon, for which he received the medal. He served under Outram in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny.

Gen. Sir Gordon Cameron, K.C.B., late Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in South Africa; Sir Graham Bower, K.C.F.G., Political Secretary of the Cape Government; and Capt. Somerville, A.D.C., were among the passengers who arrived at Plymouth on Monday in the royal mail steamship Athenian from Cape Town.

Travellers in Portugal beware. No one is allowed to leave the country by train without a passport bearing the visa of the local authorities. As this visa is only granted (on payment of a heavy fee) at certain Government offices during business hours, and not on Sundays or the innumerable official holidays, persons requiring to leave the country at short notice may find themselves unable to do so.

The body of William Thomas, who has been missing from his home since Saturday, the 12th inst., was found on Sunday on Llanwonro Mountain, Pontypridd. The deceased is supposed to have succumbed in a snowstorm prevailing at the time. His dog returned home on the 17th inst., and it is supposed it must have been keeping guard over the body for five days.

At Messina the inhabitants now stay quietly in their houses, preferring the uncertain danger of shocks of earthquake to the certain one of contracting some illness by exposure. It is true many small shocks are still felt, but people are getting used to them. In the silence of night, every now and then, low subterranean mutterings are heard, which, fortunately, are not followed by strong shocks, but keep the people in a state of anxiety.

A coroner's jury at St. Helen's found that Isaac Biddulph, a workman at a manure factory, died from anthrax, the microbes of which were absorbed into his system from the bones of cattle used in the preparation of manure. It was stated that there had been other similar cases in the works, and the Government inspector undertook to report the matter to the Home Office with a view to the making of special rules for the regulation of manure factories.

Madame Adelina Patti arrived in Vienna from Dresden on Monday.

Nine persons committed suicide in the metropolis last week.

London's birth roll last week was 2,818. The deaths numbered 1,639.

The Russian Government has decided to strengthen its consular staff in Persia.

Mr. J. Hayseman is the new president of the Mile End Liberal and Radical Association.

Count Tolstoi has just finished another work, which is called "Priceless Wealth and All the Trouble Attached to It."

An anonymous donor ("W.L.T.R.") has sent the Curates' Augmentation Fund a donation of £300.

A fishing boat capsized near the harbour of St. Ives on Monday, and two men were drowned.

No fewer than 79 infants under one year old were last week suffocated in London while in bed with their parents.

Negotiations have been opened between Germany and Japan for the conclusion of a commercial treaty.

A female died recently in the Metropolitan Imbecile Asylum at Leavesden at the reputed age of 104 years.

Canon Duckworth has been elected to succeed the late Canon Prothero as Sub-dean of Westminster.

A museum and technical institute at Portsmouth was opened on Monday by the mayor.

The Queen has forwarded 30 pheasants for the use of the patients in University College Hospital.

The Marquis of Exeter has made a return of 10 per cent. on the Michaelmas rents of his agricultural tenants.

At the Mansion House, London, on Monday, George Meacock, a publican, was fined £20 and costs for diluting beer with water.

The Health Committee of the Sheffield Corporation have decided that all dogs in any public place within the city shall be muzzled.

Mr. J. Walters, chairman of the Wilts and Dorset Bank, at Salisbury, has died from paralysis. He was head of the firm of Waters and Rawlence.

Mrs. Grierson, a lady living in Terregler-street, Glasgow, was found by her servant suffocated by a fire which broke out in her bed-room.

The East Lancashire coroner on Monday received information of the fourteenth death which has occurred in his district since Jan. 1 from burns received by children whose clothes have caught fire.

At the inquest on Albert Kingsland, at Bexley, on Monday, it transpired that deceased, just before placing himself in front of the South-eastern train, which decapitated him, had cut his throat.

Albert Evans, aged 9, was remanded at Barnsley on Monday last, charged with picking a lady's pocket of her purse. He was chased and caught with the purse in his hand.

Mr. Ingram Bywater, M.A., Regius Professor of Greek, and formerly Fellow and Tutor of Exeter College, has been elected to an honorary Fellowship at Exeter College, Oxford.

Mr. Henry Tate has forwarded a donation of £50 towards the prize fund of the Liverpool School of Science, Technology, and Art, with a promise of a similar amount for two more years.

The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, at their spring exhibition will have a large programme in water colours, black and white, architecture, decorative and applied art, photographic art and appliances.

It is understood that Sir G. Trevelyan is busily engaged on a new land bill for the Highlands. The work is necessarily delayed by the absence of the report of the Deer Forest Commission, but a good deal of drafting work has already been done.

At the weekly meeting of the Liverpool Watch Committee, on Monday, a letter was read from a lady suggesting the erection of shelter-houses in different parts of the city for the accommodation of passengers waiting for tramcars. The matter was postponed.

Mr. D. E. Davies, of Pwllbei, has been selected by the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury to act as a public auditor for the United Kingdom under the Friendly Societies Acts and the Industrial Provident Societies Acts.

At Bradford, on Monday, Mary Ellen Halliday, 29, married woman, was fined £15 and costs, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, for having kept a disorderly house, and £2 and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment, for having sold intoxicating liquors without license.

The Crofters' Commission have issued their decisions on the applications recently heard by them at Spean Bridge from crofters on the estate belonging to the trustees of the Belford Hospital. On the rents an average reduction of 28 per cent. has been made, and 57 per cent. of the arrears have been cancelled.

John Bion, the last of the "scot and lot" voters in Peterborough, is dead. John was a householder on the passing of the Reform Act of 1832, which left everyone who had a "smoking chimney" the privilege of a vote. At recent elections he had a special voting-list to himself as a "scot-and-lot" voter.

At Hohenelbe, in Bohemia, during the recent severe weather, a man met with a strange death. As he was passing a house a long, sharp, heavy icicle from the eaves fell, pierced his hat, penetrated the skull, and entered the brain like a knife. Death was instantaneous.

At a meeting of the magistrates of Glasgow, on Monday, it was stated that the general effect of the inquiries made in regard to the number of unemployed in the city was to show that no exceptional distress prevails at present. Before coming to a decision, however, it was decided to make further inquiries by communicating with large employers of labour, secretaries of trade unions, and others.

A special meeting of the Lighting Committee of the Liverpool City Council was held on Monday, when the proposed purchase by the Corporation of the undertaking of the Liverpool Electric Supply Company again engaged their attention. A letter had been received from the company on the subject, and this and other matters were considered. It is understood that the negotiations are not yet completed.

At the West Riding Police Court, Bradford, on Monday, Enoch Enoch, labourer, of Rochdale, was charged with having obtained his living by dishonest means, he being a convict out on license. Supt. Grawshaw said that prisoner, who was 57 years of age, had spent 38 years in gaol, having on five occasions been sent to penal servitude. He was now on ticket-of-leave until 1896, and under police supervision until 1897. He was found by an officer with stolen property in his possession, and he was then trying the doors of several places of business. The bench ordered prisoner's license to be forfeited.

A novel and beautiful winter charity festival took place the other day in Brussels. A company of Brussels sculptors got up in the public park an exhibition of works of art executed in snow. There were scenes and groups and single statues in the greatest variety—from portrait statues of well-known persons to the figure of a sleeping drunkard; from a learned elephant to a fight between a lion and a horse; from a statue of Napoleon I. to the scene of a well-spread table, with its attendant cooks and waiters. There were all possible combinations to admire or to laugh at. Bands of music, coloured fountains, and skating matches gave the snowy exhibition, colour, sound, and music.

Lord Muncaster has left England for a short tour in the West Indies. Lady Muncaster remains in this country.

Miss Cissie Loftus (Mrs. J. H. M'Carthy) goes to the Palace Theatre in May next at the consolatory salary of £100 a week.

Viscount Sidmouth has accepted the presidency of "Devonians in London," and will preside at the annual dinner on March 30.

The Marquis of Salisbury has promised £100 towards the fund of £100,000, which is being raised for the endowment of King's College.

Prince and Princess Adolphus of Teck have left White Lodge and gone to Eaton Hall, Chester.

Some of George Giffen's South Australian admirers have started a fund to present him with a testimonial in recognition of his services to Australian cricket.

It has been practically settled that Sir John Lubbock is to succeed Mr. Goschen as president of the London University Extension Society.

Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., Solicitor-general, has promised to preside at the forthcoming festival dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund.

At Anglesey Assizes, Beaumaris, there was a blank calendar, and Judge Chalmers was presented by the High Sheriff with a pair of white gloves.

In the presence of a large and influential gathering at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, Lord Cross unveiled a statue, of heroic size, of the late Mr. Edward Whitley, M.P.

Commander George H. Hewett, who commanded her Majesty's ship Pigmy on her first commission on the China Station, took over the command of the Dockyard Reserve at Sheerness on Monday.

At the sale of the Yates library, "Gathered Leaves from the Walks of Literature," collected by Edmund Yates, being 151 autograph letters, mounted in a volume with an illuminated title-page, fetched £88.

During the past week nine steamers landed live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool from American and Canadian ports, bringing a total of 1,965 cattle, 9,850 sheep, and 9,382 quarters of beef.

While attending the forenoon service at the Newmill Church, at Keith, on Sunday, a man named James Barclay was seized with a sudden illness and expired before he could be removed from the building.

A severe gas explosion occurred on Sunday night at 61, Angell-road, Brixton, at the private house of Mr. A. J. Sils. The basement, ground, and first floors of the house were completely wrecked.

The French naturalisation returns for 1893 show a continued decline, the effects of the law of 1889 diminishing from year to year. The number of naturalisations applied for and granted in 1893 was 4,212.

In connection with the National Sunday League, the galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street, Pall Mall, were open to the public on Sunday afternoon, and were visited by 1,024 persons.

In the course of the next Easter fair at Leipsic the usual Paper and Stationery Trades Exhibition of the Paper Union will be held in the Merchants' Clubhouse, the dates being from the 5th to the 7th March.

In the absence, through illness, of the Lord Mayor, Mr. Sheriff Hand presided at the annual prize distribution in connection with the educational classes and athletic clubs of the Central Young Men's Christian Association, Aldersgate-street.

Last year Great Britain launched 31 warships of 32,971 tons, Denmark one of 1,280 tons, France six of 28,690 tons, Germany four of 6,190 tons, Holland four of 10,450 tons, Italy three of 3,290 tons, Russia four of 34,830 tons, Turkey six of 2,300 tons.

According to present arrangements the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert will leave on February 6th for Flushing to embark the Empress Frederick, who will visit the Queen at Osborne, and travel with the Court to Windsor.

Sixty thousand volumes are stored away in the reading-room of the British Museum, and the entire library, including the King's Library, contains upwards of 2,200,000 works. These are deposited in 6,000 presses and upon shelves 30 miles in length.

Influenza has been rife in Paris since Christmas. There are at present in the infirmary of the Jesuits' school of the Rue des Postes 60 pupils ill from it, and 30 at the Lycée Louis le Grand. The malady has just invaded the Montaigne and Henry IV. Colleges.

Dr. R. P. Waring, health officer, has issued a general statement of the result of the trial of the anti-toxin remedy for diphtheria in Kansas City. His opinion briefly is that anti-toxin is almost uniformly efficacious if used when the disease first appears, or at least before blood poisoning sets in. Out of 30 cases all but four lived.

An inquest was held at Sunderland as to the deaths of two seamen belonging to the Hamburg ship Erato, who were suffocated on board the vessel in Sunderland Docks on the 19th inst. The jury returned a verdict that the two men died from asphyxia, caused by foul air, which was produced by the ignition of the contents of a cask of black paint.

A serious landslip occurred on Monday on the Bewdley and Tenbury Railway, which entirely blocked the line for traffic. Hundreds of tons of earth fell upon the railway, and gangs of men had to be employed all day in removing the obstruction, which, fortunately, was discovered before the arrival of an expected train.

It is not generally known that the cup or dish called the "Holy Grail" may be seen for a fee of five francs at the Cathedral of Genoa. The "Holy Grail," or San Graal, is said to have been part of the spoils taken by the Crusaders at Cæsarea in 1,101, and is a glass dish, hexagonal in form, with some slight ornaments.

At Edinburgh, George Hodgins and Hugh Gordon were charged with the murder of John Inglis, whom they met late on the 19th inst. A quarrel ensued, and the police appeared while they were in the midst of a fight. The two prisoners ran away. Inglis after the fight suddenly turned faint, and shortly after died. On examination it was found that death was caused by several stabs.

Robert Jones, who had just returned from New York, was arrested on Monday on a charge of fraud said to have been committed five years ago. Jones induced a young girl named Morrow to steal money from her father in order to elope to America, and having got possession of the money he deserted the girl when a few miles from home, and went to America.

Some consternation has been caused at Canterbury by the repeated appearance of a so-called ghost. The "apparition" has turned up in various parts of the suburbs, and has greatly alarmed many women and young people by its unearthly shrieks and conduct. On the 18th inst. it was viewed in the Sarton Fields district, and disappeared near the railway in a most mysterious fashion.

The steamer State of Missouri, bound from Cincinatti for New Orleans, on Sunday struck on a rock in the Ohio river below Alton, Indiana, and sank in less than five minutes in 50ft. of water. The passengers and crew numbered together about 100. Most of them jumped overboard, but the current was very swift, and six persons are said to have been drowned.

A society for instituting paper hunts has been formed in Naples, and now the permission of King Humbert has arrived for the paper-chases to be made in the Royal preserves at Astroni twice a week during the month of March. Astroni is a beautiful old crater, a circular, well-wooded valley, with a small lake in the centre, and in spring has all the charm of soft air, flowers, and luxuriant verdure.

The Bishop of St. Asaph denies that he described the conduct of Nonconformist ministers in Wales as "a hideous travesty of the Christian life."

Through the agency of the Great Arthur-street Mission, Golden-lane, Barbican, as many as 2,000 meals were given on Tuesday to the homeless and destitute poor.

As Tuesday was "grand day" of the Hilary term at Lincoln's Inn, Mr. Justice Chitty and the Benchers entertained a large number of guests at dinner.

The appointment of steward at the Dreadnought Institution of the Seaman's Hospital Society is now vacant. The salary offered commences at £60, with board and residence.

The South-western Police Court magistrate fined three lads 2s. 6d. each for skating on Clapham Common after being warned by the County Council officials that the ice was dangerous.

Wolverhampton had a phenomenally high rate of mortality last week—no less than 33·4 per 1,000. The lowest death-rate of the great towns of England was at Plymouth—12·9 per 1,000.

The deaths in London from diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 352, 319, and 389 in the preceding three weeks, further rose last week to 399, but were 362 below the corrected average.

The Rev. A. H. Blake, chaplain to Kensington Infirmary, asserts that the pauperism occasioned by over-indulgence in drink costs the ratepayers of London no less a sum than £650,000 annually.

"Subject to Vanity" is the title of a volume of sketches and studies of animal life from the pen of Miss Margaret Benson, daughter of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The work is illustrated by the authoress.

Sir W. Lockhart on Monday announced to a gathering of Mahsud chiefs the final conditions imposed by the Indian Government. The troops will not leave the country until the terms are complied with.

The Queen's new honorary chaplains:—The Rev. John Fenwick Kitto, vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Westminster; the Rev. Archdeacon Joseph M'Cormick, D.D., vicar of St. Augustine's, Highbury; and the Rev. Edward Stuart Talbot, D.D., vicar of Leeds, Yorkshire.

There was a serious plague of cockchafers last year in Austria. The "Extrablatt," of Vienna, announces that in 519 rural districts of Lower Austria alone, more than five thousand millions of the insects were destroyed during last season under the direction of the authorities.

A strange apology appears in a Thuringian newspaper, and on a placard placed in the entrance hall of the principal hotel at Schwalza. It runs:—"I, Johann Schmid, apologise for having said publicly that Fritz Werner is the vilest rascal in the world. He is not the vilest rascal." Honour has been declared satisfied.

An American specialist in astronomy objects to the orrery because it gives so false a notion of proportions in matters celestial. An orrery that should have a sun one inch in diameter must, to preserve proportion, make the earth so small as to be almost invisible, and place the nearest fixed star at a distance of 300 miles from the sun.

At a special meeting of the Charity Organisation Society, held at the Hotel Victoria, Mr. C. S. Loch read a paper on "General and Old Age Pauperism, Wages, and Prices," with special reference to the distribution of pauperism in the different counties of England and Wales since 1831. Lord Hobhouse presided.

It is said that the late Hans von Bulow left directions that a post-mortem examination of his brain should be made to ascertain the cause of the excruciating headache from which he was a life-long sufferer. The autopsy revealed the fact that the end of the nerves had become embedded in a scar of an injury to the brain that he had received in childhood.

Lord De Ramsey has addressed a letter to the Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society stating that owing to the new burdens placed on the land by the death duties he must discontinue some of his subscriptions. He must, he says, have some consideration for his son, and he asks the society to accept that as his reason for reducing his subscription from £10 to £5.

There has, during the past few weeks, been a steady rise in the death-rate for London, which last week came out at 20·0 per 1,000 per annum, the highest figure for any week since the beginning of March. So far, however, the death-rate in the present month has been very considerably below the rate in January last, and also below the average for the month in the last 10 years.

The heaviest specie loss that has taken place for some time is reported. The Turkish brig Mabrouke has foundered on a voyage from Beyrout to Jaffa with a large quantity of gold on board, and as gold is a contraband cargo at Beyrout it was packed in casks and shipped as old iron. £70,000 is insured at Lloyd's on the gold, besides a considerable sum with the companies. As the vessel is sunk in very deep water there is little or no prospect of salvage.

The Bishop of London has withdrawn the license of the Rev. A. E. Briggs, one of the curates of St. Mark's, Marylebone-road, in consequence of Mr. Briggs having openly taught the "Ave Maria" and prayers for the dead. Mr. Briggs expressed his readiness to abstain from publicly advocating these practices; but would not consent to change his opinions at the bidding of the bishop. An appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury has been allowed.

An Arklow correspondent states that Messrs. Kynoch and Co., of Birmingham, who recently purchased a considerable amount of property on the Wicklow Estate at Arklow, and have already commenced the erection of extensive cordite works, have now bought in addition a large chemical factory, formerly owned by the Wicklow Copper Mining Company. The Kynoch Company propose to manufacture chemicals of every description.

We must not, after all, take Lord Rosebery's Cardiff speech as containing a complete programme of the coming session. A correspondent has interrogated his lordship as to the omission of the Irish Land Bill. In reply, Mr. G. H. Murray, the Premier's private secretary, informs him that "his lordship had no idea of laying down the complete programme for the session; he merely mentioned a few bills that it would be advisable to pass before the dissolution."

For the first time during the last 40 years the grand open-air ceremony of the Chrestchenié, or the Blessing of the Waters, was solemnised at Odessa on the 18th without the ordinary frost. Navigation with Nicolaieff and Kherson is still open, a condition of things which has not occurred since early in the sixties. The 18th inst. being also the feast of the Russian Epiphany, a general holiday was observed at Odessa, and a crowd of about 80,000 people assembled on the Cathedral Plats to witness the Chrestchenié.

It is stated in the Chinese papers that the Japanese have placarded Pekin with notices that they will not interfere with the business of the place or any of the peaceable inhabitants; that they expect to be there shortly, and the people are not to be afraid that they will molest or annoy them in any way. They further offer a reward of 400 yen for any information that may lead to the detection of any person who shall have pulled down these placards. The Chinese officials, it is stated, are afraid to order the removal of the placards.

Mr. Ald. Bell laid the foundation-stone of the new offices of the City Commissioners of Sewers, about to be erected on a site adjoining the Guildhall Library. The estimated cost of the building is £37,000.

A serious outbreak of glanders has occurred in Cambridgeshire. At one farm in the Whittlesey district six horses affected with the disease have been slaughtered, and three other horses which had been in contact with the affected animals have also been killed.

The report is contradicted that the two great Atlantic companies sailing out of Liverpool—Cunard and White Star—contemplate amalgamation. It is equally untrue that either of the companies intend constructing a 1,000ft. liner.

Lord Brassey, speaking at Rochester, expressed his hearty approval of Liberal policy in regard to Ireland, the House of Lords, Welsh Disestablishment, and Local Option. Recognising the change as inevitable after the extension of the franchise, he had also decided in favour of the payment of members.

The Board of Trade have awarded a binocular glass to Mr. A. D. Chadwick, master of the American schooner Henry Souther, of Thomaston, Maine, in recognition of his services to the crew of the schooner Violin, of Kingston, Jamaica, which was dismasted in the Gulf of Mexico on Sept. 22 last.

A child playing in the public gardens at Barcelona discovered an iron bomb filled with gunpowder, and having an extinguished fuse attached. Had an explosion occurred the result would probably have been disastrous, as the bomb was placed in the promenade which is frequented by the children of the upper classes.

Col. Edward Mitchell presented himself in the Appeal Court again on Wednesday, to raise the question of his grievances against the War Office. After hearing his statement Lord Halsbury said that even if the court were convinced that Col. Mitchell was right, they had no power by law to interfere, and it was now too late to have a new trial.

In view of the excitement among the population of Chefoo on the near approach of the Japanese, sailors have been landed from the British, American, German, and French warships in the harbour as a precautionary measure. It is stated that the whole of the Chinese Northern Squadron is blockaded in Wei-Hai-Wei by the Japanese fleet.

The municipal buildings at Perth were destroyed by fire early on Wednesday. Some inmates of the building were removed with difficulty, but no life was lost. Royal portraits and busts, and other artistic productions were destroyed. The damage, which is estimated at £30,000, is covered by insurance.

The South-eastern Railway Company deny the accuracy of the statement telegraphed by a correspondent at Boulogne, to the effect that an arrangement has been entered into between the English and French railway companies interested to abolish the Folkestone and Boulogne passenger day services and to convey the traffic via Dover and Calais.

Mr. C. T. Ritchie delivered an address on London government, at Highbury. Referring to the County Council elections, he said it was unfortunate that the Unionists had been driven to take up a political position in the matter; but they had no choice, and he hoped that in March next the electors would choose a more businesslike assembly than the present council.

A plumber named Platts, living in Brackenbury-road, Hammersmith, was charged at West London with stealing gas. The service was disconnected in March, 1886, and latterly the officers of the Brentford Company found gas burning in the house, and discovered, on examination, that a connection had been made with the main without a meter. Committed for trial.

On Sunday afternoon the unusual occurrence of a quadruple birth took place in a suburb of Birmingham, Mrs. Davis, the wife of a baker, of 22, White-street, Sparkbrook, being safely delivered of four living male children. The infants were of a weakly nature, and survived their birth for only half an hour. The mother, however, is progressing satisfactorily.

At the County of London Sessions, William Aldridge, 38, painter, was charged with stealing a toilet service, value 35s., the property of John Goldsmidt. Prisoner was found guilty, after a previous conviction for felony and a long list of sentences to terms of imprisonment and penal servitude were given in evidence. Prisoner was sentenced to four years' penal servitude, and thereafter to be for three years under the supervision of the police.

The Duke of Connaught, at Aldershot, after a lecture by Col. Maurice on the lessons to be learned from the Franco-German war, said that the deductions of 1870 had been taken to heart by the Japanese, who copied everything that was good. Our own countrymen, he thought, did not recognise the importance of a subject which appealed to military men, and it, therefore, rested with officers to exert themselves to make up for the want of popular knowledge and interest.

In the Court of Appeal, before the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Lopes and Rigby, an application for a new trial was made on behalf of the plaintiff in an action, Starkie v. Harrison, which was tried at Lancaster Assizes. The plaintiff had sued the defendant for trespass alleged to have been committed in the assertion of a public right of way, but the jury found that there was such a right of way, and judgment was entered for the defendant. Their Lordships held that there was no ground for interfering with the finding of the jury.

A proposal of a remarkable character has been made with a view of terminating the present position of the church question in Wales. A number of influential Welsh churchmen have issued a draft scheme of re-adjustment, the main features of which are disestablishment without disendowment, better and more equitable distribution of existing endowments, abolition of the evils which often accompany lay patronage, a greater share in church management to the laity, thorough reform of the present antiquated cathedral system, the constitution of "the ancient British church" into a separate province under its own archbishop, and the consequent restoration to the church of her ancient national character.

In the Queen's Bench Division, before Mr. Justice Lawrance and Mr. Justice Wright, an application was made on behalf of one Thomas for a mandamus to certain Berkshire Justices to state a case. Thomas had been convicted and fined for riding a bicycle on a footpath at Bray, near Maidenhead, but afterwards was advised that this was not a statutory offence unless the footpath were by the side of a highway, whereas the one on which he had ridden was across some fields. The magistrates, on being applied to, refused to state a case to raise the question. Their Lordships said there seemed to be a substantial question as to whether an offence had been committed, and granted a mandamus.

Before Lord Halsbury and Lords Justices Lindley and A. L. Smith, an appeal was heard from a decision of Mr. Justice Stirling's in a case, in re Hume, in which the question at issue was whether a bequest of property in land for charitable uses by a will made before the passing of the Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act, 1891, was valid, the testatrix having died after the passing of the Act, which permitted such bequests under certain conditions. Mr. Justice Stirling had held that the bequest was valid. The person who would have benefited in the event of the failure of the testamentary disposition appealed; but their lordships now dismissed the appeal, and affirmed Mr. Justice Stirling's decision.

A good service pension of £100 per annum has been granted by the Queen to each of the undermentioned officers:—Surg.-gen. Sir A. Home, V.C., K.C.B.; Maj.-gen. C. J. Ibbetson, C.B., Governor Commandant of the Royal Military College; and Maj.-gen. Sir William F. Butler, K.C.B., commanding the 2nd Infantry Brigade, Aldershot.

A bill has passed both Houses of Parliament in South Australia providing that the standard time for the Colony shall be reckoned as from the 135th meridian of longitude. This is in accordance with the resolution of the late Postal Conference, which recommended that for commercial convenience Australia should be divided into three zones, reckoning their respective times:—Western Australia, eight hours; South Australia, nine hours; and the other colonies 10 hours before Greenwich time. As soon as the bill becomes law in South Australia all clocks will have to be put back 14 minutes and 20 seconds.

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

By LARRY LYNX.

[Readers of this article should remember that the opinions and conclusions expressed therein are given upon the relative merits of the horses named, and special information obtained concerning them. All bets on racehorses are said to be subject to horses scratching, and any sudden alteration in the market against a horse after the publication of this article shows that something has transpired to cause the performance of a favourite to be unfavourable, or else information of a kind which affects the opinion held of him by "Larry Lynx" prior to going to press.]

The racing world learned with intense regret of the death of that once popular jockey, Fred Barrett, at the time of life when most men are thinking of beginning it. It was but a few short years ago when he held a leading position among the ranks of our foremost jockeys. As a matter of fact, records tell us that in 1888 he was at the top of the list. During that year he won the Derby on Ayrshire, while in 1889 he rode Donovan to victory for the Duke of Portland in the St. Leger. He wound up that season brilliantly by winning the Cambridgeshire on the French mare, Alicante. For the Duke of Portland and Mr. Leopold de Rothschild he made a lot of winners, but increasing years brought him more bulk, and this induced him to search for employment on the sentiment as a trainer. His first wife was a daughter of the late James Goater, and it was only in October last that he married a second time. He always suffered from delicate health, and was subject to epileptic fits. He did not, however, succumb to one of these seizures, but died from a complicated form of Bright's disease of the kidneys. As a youngster he had few superiors in the saddle, and I should say his happiest achievement was getting home Bird of Freedom in front of McMahon in the City and Suburban in 1885. He was a bit unlucky in the Two Thousand Guineas of 1889. Watching Pioneer, he did not see Tom Cannon stealing up on Enthusiast, and was caught napping by the master of Danebury. Another stride would have put Donovan first past the post, and would have enrolled him among the triple-crowned band, consisting of West Australia, Gladiateur, Lord Lyon, Ormonde, Common, and Isinglass. How flukey the defeat of Donovan was in the Two Thousand Guineas was proven by the show he made of Enthusiast in the Newmarket Stakes and Derby.

FRED BARRETT.

Despite the vagaries of the weather, we have had plenty of racing of its class during the past week. Sport began on Monday at Dunstall Park, where jumping work was carried out under pleasant auspices. Still, fields were of a very poor class, and the paucity of horses running in the various events tended to prove that a close time for racing in January is only one of the necessaries of life. One can scarcely say anything of note deserve remembrance in connection with Wolverhampton. Our good old friend, Objection, cropped up in the Compton Selling Hurdle Race, when The Stint won from General Sir Beryn. It came to nought, however, as the acting stewards, Col. Thornseycroft and the Right Hon. Staveley Hill, on investigating the matter, overruled the protest on the ground of insufficient evidence. Ballina followed up the horses for courses theory by landing the odds betted on him in the Bescott Hurdle Race, and so supplemented a victory gained at Dunstall Park at Christmas time.

Racing was of better class at Manchester, where the Irish jumpers assembled in strong force. It is pretty clear that the animals trained in the Emerald Isle cross the St. George's Channel without returning laden with the spoils of war. On Tuesday three Irish trained horses were successful—Orloff, Sixpence, and Gillstown—Mr. Scully ran second with War Cloud to Quack in the Selling Steeplechase, while on the second day Orloff won again, and The Wake ran second to School. The opening day's sport at Manchester was enjoyed in weather that was positively spring-like, and, despite fears to the contrary, the man with the watering pot held his hand. In the opening event, the Pendleton Steeplechase, that arch rogue, King Charles, who, after he had won the City and Suburban, became such a splendid failure at the fair, had his second go in the jumping business. It will be recollected that in his first essay under National Hunt rules, the old leaven asserted itself in him, as he made a clean bolt of it. He did not bolt this time, but finished a miserable third behind Orloff, who won in a hand canter. Orloff has been a very useful slave to Mr. Scully, who is a thorough knight of the pigskin, whether at fences or over sticks. King Charles is a slovenly jumper, and I fear that he will bring little grist to the mill of Major Joicey, who owns him. As he has been placed in a steeplechase, he is now qualified to race in flat races under National Hunt rules. Mr. Scully did not score in the Selling Steeplechase with War Cloud, who, as before at the last meeting, ran second, and Quack confirmed recent winning form. The biggest field of the day was seen out in the Selling Handicap Hurdle Race, for which Fontainebleau was made a very hot favourite, but backers were all out of their reckoning, and Sixpence, ridden by Captain Woolmar who carried his eyeglass but no spurs, won in a canter from Maddenstown. For the Manchester Handicap Steeplechase, Seaside, despite a disastrous failure at Newmarket, started first favourite, and men positively tumbled over one another to back Lord Bentinck's gelding. Another strong paddock tip was Edgar, while Gallery, the hope of Newmarket, was also heavily supported. Lady Ellen II., who ran up to Why Not in the last Grand National, was decidedly unfit, and finished the absolute last. Edgar ran very well, but could not give the weight away to Seaside, and Torchlight split the pair. If Mr. Charles Hibbert failed to score with Fontainebleau, he had his revenge when Samarcand won the Selling Hurdle Race.

Fine weather favoured the second day, when the Scotchmen had their turn, as Annegrove, who is trained by Gilbert Steel at Ayrshire, won the Cheshire Steeplechase. The Irishmen scored with Orloff in the Selling Hurdle Race, and after the style in which that horse disposed of Rheingold, it is not surprising that he was bought in for 270 guineas. The largest field of the day turned out for the January Hurdle Race, in which the favourite, Rylstone, made a poor show behind Norval, finishing sixth. There is not much to say about the victories of School, Phantom Star, and Reaction. In the last-named horse's race, Seaside made a good show, but had to knuckle under.

A disgraceful scene occurred when Mr. J. Scully, who rode the favourite, Luttrellstown, in the Selling Handicap Hurdle Race, returned to the paddock. The horse, who has a villainous temper of his own, refused to gallop at the stand, and stopped to kick. When set going again, he had lost too much ground to make up in time, and was beaten off behind Phantom Star. A few roughs, who lost their money over Luttrellstown, got from the enclosure into the paddock, and threatened Mr. Scully with personal violence. The police rescued him, and one man was arrested. In these days we see few of such scenes on racecourses, although in the old times there were plenty of displays of ruffianism. If the anti-gamblers had their way, and abolished the enclosures at race meetings, we should see plenty more of such displays of rowdyism, and many lives lost. Betting in the open on a racecourse would be a fine chance for "the boys," but it would kill racing. Will the anti-gamblers understand this?

Some very interesting statistics have lately been published in the "Sportsman," which ought to command a lot of attention from breeders. The gentleman who writes under the signature of "H. A. G." has evidently given the subject most profound consideration. In two issues of the "Sportsman" he has dealt with the breeding of the winners of the St. Leger and the Oaks, and I should imagine to him the work has been a labour of love. The result of his work is that he vindicates the old cry of "Eclipse first and the rest nowhere." There have been altogether 119 winners of the St. Leger. Of these, 74 trace their origin to the famous Darley Arabian, 69 of them coming through Eclipse, and 5 through other sires. Of the rest, 29 through Herod trace their pedigree back to the Byerley Turk, and 16 of them date back to the Godolphin Arabian, and 13 through Matchem. Turning to the Oaks victresses, and quoting "H. A. G.'s" figures, we find that from the time of the first Oaks, raced for in 1779, a year before the first Derby, the list of 116 winners shows the Darley Arabian to be in the ascendant. In all, 66 of his descendants have won the Oaks, and 64 of these come from the great house of Eclipse. Through Herod 37 can be traced back to the Byerley Turk, while only 13 can be placed to the credit of the Godolphin Arabian. It is within the last half century that the blood of Eclipse has so strongly asserted itself. Only four of the Byerley Turk's descendants have won the St. Leger, while only three of the Godolphins have scored in that race. In the last 50 years Eclipse tops the score with 33 descendants, Herod figures with 12, and the Godolphin with 5. In point of numbers the Godolphin comes out badly, but at the same time he is responsible for the peerless West Australian, and through that mighty horse, the first winner of the triple crown, we get Solon, and then Barcaldine.

The weights for the principal handicaps of springtide, which came to hand last Thursday's "Calendar," were very welcome. So, too, was the announcement that the acceptances will be issued on Wednesday next. The long debated question of Cloister's weight for the Grand National has been brought to a close at last by Mr. Mainwaring, who places him at the top of the show with 12st. 8lb., 15lb. in front of one of his former conquerors, Horizon. Other previous performers over the Aintree course, including three winners in Why Not, Rex, and Father O'Flynn, and Wild Man from Borneo, are to be found lower down the list. Horses whose names have been mentioned as likely winners of the Grand National, to wit, Shotaway, Novice, a difficult horse to train, Fanatic, Cottratie, and March Rare, are assessed at 10st. 11lb., 10st. 6lb., 10st. 1lb., and 9st. 12lb. respectively. Mr. Ford, as was generally anticipated, places Gangway at the top of the Lincolnshire Handicap horses with 9st. 4lb., and in connection with this race it may be remarked that Medicis is not too harshly treated with 8st. 4lb., considering that this five-year-old won Ormonde and La Flèche in the Eclipse Stakes of 1892. In the Epsom events, Ravensbury is placed at the top of the poll for the Great Metropolitan Handicap. In the City and Suburban, Mr. Dorling reckons up Avington as the top of the tree with 9st. 7lb. Ravensbury is made out to be 2lb. worse than this estimate, and Gangway 11lb. inferior to Ravensbury. To Victor Wild is apportioned 8st. 6lb., and Nous the Wiser 8st. 5lb., while Clwyd and Son o' Mine are on the same mark, 8st. Queen of the Chase, Ella Tweed, and The Owl are reckoned the best of the three-year-olds.

In the Kempton Park Jubilee Stakes, Best Man, who, by some people is regarded as good as Isinglass, which opinion I do not share, is given the place of honour with 9st. 10lb., which makes him 4lb. better than Avington. Gangway, Ravensbury, and Throstle come next, but in this handicap Victor Wild is on the same mark as Clwyd. The sprinting Priestholme, if he is not deemed to be a pacemaker again, is well in at 7st. 7lb., while of the three-year-olds, Kirkconnel, The Lombard, and Marco are most esteemed. Of other events, Bethlay heads the Earl Spencer's Plate weights; Newcourt is asked to carry the top impost in the Northamptonshire Stakes; Dumbarton heads the Nottinghamshire Spring Handicap; Medicis is in first at all others in the Stockbridge Stakes at Derby; while Ravensbury is first in the handicapper's estimate for the time-honoured Chester Cup.

The glove fight between England, as represented by Dick Burge, of Newcastle, and Australia, as championed by Tom Williams, which took place at the National Sporting Club last Monday, only lasted four rounds, but a tremendous amount of work was done in those four rounds. Burge is a fighter of the old school rather than the new one, and I am glad to say that the old school had the best of it. Burge is a scientific boxer. Williams is what is known as a hurricane fighter. The men were matched to fight at 10st. 2lb., but weight, height, and age were all in favour of the Australian. In the first round Williams was not anxious to pursue his general bull-rushing tactics, and Burge, although confident, was cautious. In the second and third rounds the pace was made to deal out work tremendous; in fact, at that juncture of the contest it was anybody's fight. Both men fought to the extremity of weakness, but at the finish Burge landed two terrific blows on the throat that fairly staggered Williams and knocked him on to the ropes. When they came up at the fourth time of asking, it was apparent that Burge was the fresher of the two, and at the finish he brought the right across in the good, old-fashioned way, instead of slinging it, and this gave Williams his quietus. He fell forward on his face, and was counted out. Burge is a very generous-hearted man, and when he drew his cheque of £750, he gave a portion of it to approve of a pony. Mitchell now wants to fight Jackson, and it is said that Corbett is also hankering after the black man's scalp. There appears to be more rumours of wars than wars.

The League football clubs have been rather quiet during the past week, and the prominent clubs have not altered their positions. Derby County and Stoke, who are at the bottom of the table, played a drawn game on Saturday; Sheffield Wednesday were beaten at Nottingham by the Forest by 2 to 1; and at Sheffield the United beat the Wolverhampton Wanderers by a single goal. The Lancashire members of the League were engaged in Lancashire Cup ties, in which for the time being there was just as much interest locally as in League matches. In the metropolis, the London Cup ties attracted attention, and a noteworthy feature of the competition was the victory of the Old Carthusians over the Old Foresters by 8 goals to 0. The Old Westminsters scarcely scored so much as was expected against the City Ramblers, winning by 3 to 0 only. Clapton did well to beat the Crusaders by 4 goals to 2; Casuals got 2 goals more than Ealing in a high-scoring match; Ilford drew with St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and Woodford unexpectedly beat Crouch End by 5 goals to 1. Tottenham Hotspur for the third time played their Amateur Cup tie with London Welsh, and were at length victorious. In the Southern League, Millwall Athletic beat Chatham by 2 goals to love. Woolwich Arsenal only just managed to beat Barnsley Port Vale in a Second League match.

The best of the Rugby matches in town was that between London Scottish and Richmond, and it says much for the energy infused into the old Richmond club during the season by its present captain, W. E. Bromet, that a victory over the Scottish by 3 tries to 1 was scored. Rosslyn Park had the worst of the luck in their match with Middlesex Wanderers, and were beaten by 2 goals to 2 tries. Kensington gave the Harlequins a stiff game, and were only beaten in the end by a goal. Croydon scarcely played up to form against Wickham Park, and only won by a try. A match in which great interest was taken was that between Cardiff and Blackheath in South Wales. The London club had a decidedly strong forward team, but were scarcely at their best behind; they were beaten by a dropped goal and a try to a goal—not a big margin. Lennox essayed the difficult task of tackling Oxford, and as a consequence had the score of 24 points run up against them. The Old Merchant Taylors were lucky in scoring against the Old Leysians whilst the latter were one short, and thus won by a goal to nothing. On Wednesday a team not fully representative of the strength of Middlesex played against the Eastern Counties in a snowstorm at Ipswich, and after a hard game won by a couple of tries to nothing.

The teams to represent the various clubs in the cross-country championships are rapidly getting into condition. The majority of the cracks are in fine form, whilst on the 19th inst., H. Watkins, the Southern champion, was running as well, if not better, than he was at a corresponding time last year.

Owing to the Manchester racecourse not being available on the 16th of February, the Northern Counties' Championship will take place on that date over the course which was used for the National Championship last year. It is to be hoped that the barbed wire, which so severely lacerated the runners on that occasion, has either been removed or will be avoided.

FOOTBALL ERRATUM.—At Wembley Park, on the 19th inst., the result of the match between West Middlesex Rifles and Brewer Old Boys should have read a draw of 2 goals each.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S TURF CAREER.

After a long struggle with death, Lord Randolph Churchill has passed away in the prime of life. His loss to the turf is serious, because his moral influence on the national sport was so great by reason of the power of his personal influence and strong individuality. It was in the year 1887 that he began racing, in partnership with Lord Dunraven, and won several minor events in the succeeding year. In 1889 his colours were, unexpectedly to everybody, including himself, borne to victory in the Oaks by L'Abbesse de Jouarre, this being his lordship's only victory in a classic race. The same mare also won the Manchester Cup, the Portland Plate, and the Hardwicke Stakes at Ascot, and having only cost 200gs. as a yearling, she turned out a very remunerative purchase. The horses sometimes ran in Lord Randolph's name and sometimes in Lord Dunraven's, the two noblemen owning a half-share each in all of them. In 1893 they won the Cambridgeshire with Molly Morgan, and last May the same mare credited them with the Doncaster Spring Handicap. Lord Randolph was a frequent visitor to "the little town in Cambridgeshire," and was much interested in the training of his horses. The turf can ill spare so great a personality as that of Lord Randolph Churchill.

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE OUTRAGE.

The inquiry into the death of an old gentleman who said he was the victim of highway robbery in Shaftesbury Avenue before Christmas, has been deputed to the police of the C Division. It has transpired that deceased lost no property on the occasion reported, except a metal watch and chain, valued at 3s. 6d., and the statement that he was carried into a public-house by a police-constable subsequently to the reported outrage, has not, so far been corroborated. It is also pointed out that the friend deceased was said to have been dining with did not attend the inquest. A brother of deceased has come forward, and will attend the adjourned inquest, and from a statement made by him it appears deceased at one time had an income of £3,000 a year, but was lately in very reduced circumstances, and married within the last 12 months. It is probable at the adjourned hearing a very different version of the deceased's story will be forthcoming.

Mr. Wilson Todd, M.P., addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents at Market Weighton on Thursday and spoke in feeling terms of the death of Lord Randolph Churchill.

THE DIVORCE SEQUEL.

EVIDENCE OF MRS. BARRETT.

At Bow-street on Monday, Henry John Clarke, inquiry agent, 20, Cockspur-street, and Ellen Lyons were charged, on remand, before Sir John Bridge, with conspiring to defeat and prevent the due course of law and justice, and to procure Gertrude Alexandra Barrett to commit adultery. Particulars were published last week.—Mr. Horace Avory prosecuted; Mr. Frederick Kent defended Clarke.—Mrs. Barrett a good-looking young woman of 22, said her marriage was a very unhappy one. In February, 1892, she commenced proceedings for a judicial separation. She had no friends or relatives in London, and was an orphan. She consulted a Bedford solicitor named Stimpson. She was staying at a boarding-house in Foxton-road when a woman calling herself Mdme. Carina came there for two days, and showed her great attention and sympathy. Witness told her she was going to move to Earl's Court-road. Witness went there, and the next day the female prisoner came there. Lyons sought her acquaintance, and wanted witness to go and live with her in Denbigh-street, Pimlico, and she did so in March. Lyons took her to the Empire, after borrowing money from witness to pay the expenses. They went into the 5s. seats, and Lyons said she was going to look round and see if any of her good friends were present, so that she might borrow a five-pound note of one of them, and advised witness to do the same. She offered to introduce witness to some of her friends. Later on she introduced a man to witness as Mr. Stevens, of the Stock Exchange. It was the prisoner Clarke. Lyons left them together, and Clarke asked witness to go with him to a private hotel. She refused; she had an idea it was for an improper purpose, but was not sure. He asked her to supper, and said Lyons was coming too, so she agreed to go. She saw Clarke nod to Lyons as they went towards the door, and they all three went to the Café Monico and had supper and champagne. Clarke paid for it, and accompanied them to Denbigh-street. On leaving he kissed Lyons, and tried to kiss witness, but she declined. The female prisoner took possession of the pawnticket of the rings which witness had pawned. Witness afterwards found the rings had been redeemed without her authority, and she had never seen them since. Witness charged the prisoner with stealing the pawnticket at Westminster, but the case was dismissed, as there was no evidence to show who redeemed the rings.—Mr. Avory intimated that there was a probability of this charge being again preferred.—Witness said she lent another diamond ring to Lyons in March. She afterwards saw it in Mr. Barrett's possession at the Divorce Court. Witness had since seen one of the pledged rings at a pawnbroker's.—Mr. Avory said a pawnticket relating to the ring had been found at Lyons' lodgings, showing it to have been pawned in the name of John Clarke, in Warwick-street.—Witness said she lent the prisoner the ring to wear at a fancy dress ball at Covent Garden. Witness looked out of the window and saw her talking to a man whom she believed to be Mr. Barrett. She spoke to her on her return, when she denied it was Mr. Barrett, and said he was at Bedford. About March 23 they

MRS. BARRETT.

MRS. LYONS.

WENT TO THE EMPIRE AGAIN.

She noticed a man behind them as they went in. Lyons pointed him out as the only rich man in the whole place. She said he was Mr. Charles Wilson, son of an M.P. She left witness, and as soon as she did so Mr. Wilson came up. He spoke to her about the performance, and the prisoner then came back and said she knew his brother well. He asked witness what she was going to do for the rest of the evening. She said to remain at the theatre, and Lyons said they two should go on to the Rupert Hotel. Lyons left them, and witness refused to go to the Rupert Hotel with Wilson, and said if she went anywhere for supper it would be to the Café Monico, as that was a public place. Witness went with Wilson to the Café Monico, and had supper with him. He said his father was an M.P. and lived in Yorkshire, and had also a house in Grosvenor Gardens. He suggested that she should receive letters from him under cover to Lyons, and asked her to meet him at Hyde Park-corner. Lyons was waiting outside the Café Monico when they came out. Witness met Wilson at Hyde Park-corner. He said he had taken a fancy to her, and wanted her to go with him for a week. She said it was impossible. He still kept persuading her, and, saying he knew of some rooms, suggested she should go and look at them. She consented, and went to St. John's Wood in a cab, to 19, Wellington-road. He went into the house, and gave his card and some money to the landlady, telling her they would come in on the following Monday. He made witness promise to go to the rooms with him on that day. Witness told Lyons, who was very delighted, saying, "That's right, make the most of your chances; his money will be of use to us." On Monday morning witness told her she had altered her mind, and would not go. She seemed put out, and told witness she was a fool to lose such good chances. She advised witness to see Wilson, and tell him she had altered her mind. Witness went to Hyde Park-corner a quarter of an hour before the time appointed, and found the female

CLARKE.

PRISONER THERE TALKING TO WILSON.

On seeing witness she ran off. Witness told Wilson she would not go with him, as the risk was too great, and she was a married woman. He replied that her husband would not know, and no doubt he did the same with other women. Wilson said he would not keep to his promise of taking her in his yacht and giving her diamonds unless she went with him to St. John's Wood, and she ultimately consented to go. They got there between two and three. He had taken a sitting-room and a bed-room. Witness went out to buy some things she required. They went to the Metropolitan Music Hall and to supper afterwards. Wilson had several drinks, and was very intoxicated on getting back. She asked him the best way home to Denbigh-street, and he replied that it was too late to go there, and she had better make the best of it. She stayed there that night. She slept in the bedroom, and Wilson on a couch in the drawing-room. The next morning he was in the bedroom when the landlady came up with hot water. They went out after breakfast to Charing Cross, when he left her, making an appointment to meet her at five o'clock. He failed to do so, but came on to the lodgings later in a state of intoxication. She insisted on leaving him, and he grew angry, snatched away her purse, and hid her hat and nightdress in the coal scuttle. The landlady found them for her, and she left the house between 9 and 10. She

DID NOT GET BACK HER PURSE

or the money in it. She got home to Denbigh-street, found Lyons there, and upbraided her for having introduced Wilson to her. She only laughed and said it was experience gained. She added that her husband was coming back to England, and that she would have to give up the rooms in Denbigh-street to meet him, but would see witness safely in new lodgings and join her there. The next Saturday she took witness to lodgings at Buckingham Palace Gate, but she did not come back, and witness never saw her again till she was arrested on the charge of stealing the ticket of the ring referred to. Witness had not received any support from her husband since the trial. She had pawned everything she could raise money on, and had gone into the workhouse in 1893. She afterwards became a nurse, and was now earning her living as one.—By Sir John Bridge: Nothing improper took place between her and Wilson.—The hearing was adjourned to Monday, bail being refused.

BREACH OF PROMISE.

At Somersetshire Assizes, Mr. Justice Collins heard an action for breach of promise of marriage brought by Miss Helen Adams, daughter of the Deputy Town Clerk of Yeovil, against Mr. Robert Leach, proprietor of the Half Moon Hotel in that town, and a member of the Yeovil Town Council. Plaintiff is 36 years of age, and defendant is a widower of 47. Defendant admitted the promise, but contended that there had been a justifiable recision of the agreement, as plaintiff had postponed the marriage three times, notwithstanding that on the third occasion he provided the wedding breakfast, &c. Plaintiff stated that defendant agreed to the third postponement. His lordship said he believed defendant's story, and gave a verdict for him, with costs.

"CASH FOR BRAINS."

ANOTHER MISSING WORD COMPETITION.

At Bow-street on Thursday, Edd Ames Webber, medical student; and Louis Henry Perlman, manager of the American Oxyzone Syndicate, were charged, on remand, before Sir John Bridge, with conspiring together to obtain money by false pretences. Mr. Angus Lewis prosecuted on behalf of the Treasury; Mr. Paul Taylor appeared for Webber; and Perlman was defended by Mr. Bodkin.—It is alleged that the prisoners advertised their willingness to give prizes to persons who successfully filled up blanks left in certain sentences. The advertisements were headed "Cash for Brains." Thousands of replies were sent, and it was alleged that each letter writer was informed that he had been successful, and would receive a prize of £4 on sending 10s. 6d. to cover the cost of a tin of oxyzone, which would be forwarded with the prize money. Thousands of half guineas were so sent, but, according to the prosecution, no prize money was ever paid.—Mr. Bodkin said that before the case was gone into he would call attention to a gross specimen of injustice towards the prisoners. Comments had been made on this case in what he supposed he must call the Press before the facts had been investigated. The paragraph to which he referred appeared on the 18th inst. In his humble opinion it was the height of unfairness and the height of vulgarity. He hoped that when the magistrate had read it he would say something likely to stop such a disgraceful state of affairs in the nineteenth century.—Sir John Bridge having read the paragraph in question, the name of the paper in which it appeared not being mentioned, said that in his opinion a police court report should only contain what transpired in the police court. To make comments on a case before it was disposed of was very improper.—Mr. Taylor said that the interpretation put on the circular rested on a misreading by Mr. Lewis. He contended that the full list of correct answers was not limited to four words, but that there were many correct answers to each of the four "studies." Taking the first word, witness thought it "president," but "prominent" would equally fit in as what many French and American politicians and orators would like to be.—Witness admitted it might.—Mr. Taylor said that once it was admitted that there was more than one correct answer, the less became the amount of the £4 to be given for each word.—Sir John Bridge differed.—Mr. Taylor said that assuming 20 words would fit into each skeleton a man must send in 80 answers to be entitled to the £4.—Witness said he read in the circular that if he was dissatisfied with the oxyzone he could get back his 10s. 6d., but he did not express his dissatisfaction nor apply for his money back. The words accompanying the signal flag did not alter his opinion that he was entitled to £4. From the colour alone he could tell how many of the words he had sent answers to. It did not appear to him that the number on the flag was wholly distinct from the colour of the flag. The form was printed, not written in ink.—The hearing of the case was adjourned till Thursday next.—Mr. Taylor applied for bail for Webber. The prosecution was due to a misreading of the circular, and proceedings had been taken on the information of Mr. Selby, who admitted he had made no attempt to get his money back.—Mr. Bodkin applied for bail for Perlman. By the circulars themselves the time for the distribution of prizes had not come when these men were arrested.—Sir John Bridge said that considering the amount of money that had been received by them he should for the present refuse bail.

WEBBER.

PERLMAN.

Last year's accounts of the North-Eastern Railway show a balance which will admit of the payment of a dividend on North-Eastern Consols at the rate of 6¾ per cent. per annum.

LORD R. CHURCHILL DEAD.

PEACEFUL AND PAINLESS END.

THE QUEEN'S SYMPATHY.

We regret to announce that Lord Randolph Churchill succumbed to his long and dangerous illness early on Thursday morning. Lady Randolph Churchill, the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough, and the other members of the family were present at the bedside. The sad event is officially recorded in the following bulletin, which was issued by Dr. Robson Roose and Dr. Keith immediately afterwards:—"Lord Randolph Churchill passed away peacefully and without pain at 6.15 this morning." The news of the sad event was immediately sent to her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Czar, the German Emperor, and a large number of personal friends who have been making continuous inquiries since his lordship's return to this country.

The Queen has telegraphed her most sincere condolences to the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough and Lady Randolph Churchill.

A special service was held on Thursday at 50, Grosvenor-square, the various members of the family alone being present. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. Edgar Sheppard, Sub-dean of the Chapel Royal, who celebrated the Holy Communion.

There were several callers at 50, Grosvenor-square during Thursday, and the earlier inquirers received at the door their first intimation that his lordship had passed away. Cards were left by or for Sir Francis and Lady Jeune, Sir Algernon West, Col. Howard Vincent, the German Ambassador, Sir F. Leighton, Mr. Burdett-Coutts and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts (an inquiry from Naples), and the Chief Rabbi. After the fact of the death of Lord Randolph became generally known, the callers were much fewer, but there was a constant succession of written and telegraphic inquiries. Lord Rosebery sent as usual, and on hearing of his lordship's demise, forwarded by messenger a letter of condolence and sympathy.

The funeral will take place on Monday at Bladon Church near Blenheim, where two of Lord Randolph's younger brothers, who died in infancy, have been buried. His elder brother, the late Duke of Marlborough, was buried at Blenheim. It is understood that a memorial service will probably be held in London simultaneously with the funeral at Bladon Church.

LORD RANDOLPH'S CAREER.

Lord Randolph Henry Spencer Churchill was second son of the sixth Duke of Marlborough, and was born on Feb. 13, 1849. He was educated at Eton and Merton College, Oxford, graduating B.A. and taking a second-class in law and modern history. In 1874 Lord Randolph entered public life as member for Woodstock, but it was not till 1880 that his abilities as a speaker showed themselves. He then relentlessly attacked the Liberal party, and became leader of a body of men known as the "Fourth Party." In recognition of his services, Lord Salisbury, on coming into office in 1885, offered Lord Randolph the secretaryship for India, and this he accepted. His short tenure of office was marked by the annexation of Upper Burmah. In 1886 he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer, and became leader of the House of Commons. After unsuccessfully contesting Birmingham, he was returned for South Paddington by the substantial majority of 1,706. At the end of 1886 he resigned the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer because of a disagreement with his colleagues on the fiscal system of the country, especially with regard to the Army and Navy. In explaining and justifying this course, he in a speech at Wolverhampton, declared that we could only put 150,000 soldiers in the field for the fifty odd millions we yearly spend on the Army and Navy. He said that none of our fortresses were properly equipped; that we had no heavy guns in reserve; that such as we had were the worst in Europe; that our infantry were armed with inferior rifles; that bayonets, swords, and cutlasses were of inferior metal; that our war ships were insufficiently supplied with ammunition; that to properly equip our ironclads we should have to rob the forts; that shells were shipped that would not burst when fired; that guns certified as unfit for use for service were sent to sea and burst when fired; and many other unpleasant facts. He also condemned what he called a system of recklessness and wastefulness in the spending of the money. He himself said he had "sacrificed himself on the altar of thrift and economy" and thenceforth he made frequent attacks on the spending departments of the Government and on its Sunkin policy. During this time Lord Randolph's views on other questions were decidedly in advance of his party, from whom he obtained little support. One subject, especially, was that of Local Option, which he tentatively espoused in the belief that the liquor question was capable of legislative solution. He was also prepared to go to considerable lengths in the question of shortening the hours of labour. On one occasion he wrote:—"Eight hours' labour, eight hours' sleep, and eight hours for mental and bodily recreation, seems to me to be an ideal which a democratic legislature in its care for the welfare of the whole people may wisely and profitably endeavour to aim at." To Lord Randolph's ability as a speaker tribute has often been paid. Like Lord Beaconsfield, he was a coiner of phrases. Lord Randolph married, in 1874, Miss Jennie Jerome, of New York, who has since become a prominent member of the Primrose League. Lord Randolph's travels in South Africa, and especially in the territories of the Chartered Company, will be well within the recollection of the newspaper reading public.

OMNIBUS THIEVES.

At the County of London Sessions, John Edwards, 22 hawker, and Alexander Chambers, 21, silversmith, pleaded guilty to stealing a purse and the sum of £9 3s. 4d. and divers stamps, the goods and moneys of Margaret Vaughan.—On January 7 prosecutrix was waiting for an omnibus opposite Kensington Church, when Edwards, who had previously got off an omnibus with Chambers, was seen to push up against prosecutrix and steal her purse. Both prisoners ran away, but were caught and taken to the police-station, the empty purse being afterwards found outside the station door.—Previous convictions were proved against both prisoners, but in the case of Chambers it was pointed out that he had not been in trouble since 1892.—Edwards was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour to be followed by three years' police supervision, and Chambers to eight months' imprisonment with hard labour, to be followed by 18 months' police supervision.

HIDEOUS WITCHCRAFT.

A long residence in the West Indies made me somewhat familiar with obeah, a kind of witchcraft which the negro brought with him from his native land, says a writer in the "Brooklyn Citizen." There are obeahmen and obeahwomen, but the former are the most common. They are generally well known to their neighbours, none of whom, however, would dare to give the obeahmen away to the authorities. The rites of obeah differ according to the tribe from which the person who practices it comes. A common enchantment is to gather herbs and boil them and scatter the herbs and sprinkle the water near or on the dwelling of the person to be obeahed. Another practice is to bury certain things in the earth or lay sticks in a particular position, muttering incantations over them. I know it is a fact that an obeahman, if properly paid for it, will not only "lay obeah" to destroy a person, but poison the person if necessary to carry out his contract with the party who employs him. For it is to be understood that the obeahman works for fee and reward, and will not exercise his art without it. Not far from my residence, in a beautiful valley, was a thrown up sugar estate. Three Englishmen in succession hired the place and

DIED VERY SOON AFTERWARD.

When the property was abandoned after the abolition of slavery the former slaves squatted upon it and finally came to look upon it as their own. They wanted no one to interfere, and when the white man leased the place and went to live in the great house and began to exercise the rights of tenant and to prevent the negro from encroaching it was resolved to remove him. The obeahman was consulted. He prepared a slow but sure poison to remove the white man. The negroes appeared to submit to the tenant's demands, and he flattered himself that everything was going to be pleasant. But the black cook, who so cheerfully and ably prepared his food, and the servants who laughed at his jokes and were so watchful for a chance to serve him, were in league with the obeahman. When the tenant was taken sick the negro came to the house with stealthy step and subdued voice and asked after Buckra's health with many exclamations of sorrow at the answer that he was no better. The negress came and offered her aid around the house, and sympathised with Buckra's wife and family, and other words of condolence mixed with strangely garbled verses of hymns and of Scripture. When death came the negroes and negresses attended the funeral in a body and manifested every sign of sorrow. If the family didn't speedily remove the next thing was the sudden sickness of a child. That invariably induced the occupants of the pesthouse to move away as soon as possible. A negro of wealth and influence, and one of the best men, white or black, I ever met, told me the facts above narrated, adding that the authorities might sweep the valley of all the negroes in it, but they never could get at the guilty parties to punish them. A negro who was very industrious amassed some wealth and put up for himself a pretty cottage on the side of a gully, down which a pure mountain stream ran. It was as sweet a little spot as ever I saw. The foundations were good and the house stood upon pillars formed of the trunks of huge trees. This man offended one of his neighbours and he

EMPLOYED AN OBEAHMAN.

to destroy him. One night in a storm the house with everything in it was swept into the stream, which had become a roaring torrent. Every black man, woman, and child stood aghast, and whispered: "Obeah." This one and that said how they had seen a man "laying obeah" near the house. Sure enough, a hole was found containing a ring, some human hair, and a few bones, and the neighbours all said that was what had done it. Some time afterward when the place was examined there were undoubted signs that the posts on which the house had stood had been sawn almost through, so that the first whirling rainstorm from the mountains might drive it into the gully. I rode with the coloured man already mentioned to see the wreck. As we walked our horses through a glade near the stream, a tall, fine-looking, well-dressed negro crossed the path. His face was positively handsome, and a pleasant smile spread over it as he bowed and said "Good morning." I returned the salute, but my coloured companion impatiently jerked aside his horse and said: "Chut." This is a term among the negroes of contempt and abhorrence. "Who is that?" I asked. "A priest of the devil," my friend answered. "A Mohammedan?" I asked, for there had been slaves who were Mohammedans, whose descendants professed to follow that faith in an ignorant fashion. "No, oh no!" my friend said, "Mohammedan negroes don't set obeah." The inference I drew was that the serene gentleman whom I had just seen was an obeahman, and the suspected cause of the wrecked dwelling. By the way, I omitted to say that it so happened that on the night after no living soul was within its walls, the owner and his wife having the previous day gone up the mountains to visit a married daughter and been detained by the threatening storm.

PERSONAL.

P. P.

SEEN. Please call for letters as before, and write soon; new comer need not separate us. Ever yours.

H. S. Y. to E. M.

RATHER surprised after the request by note of 13th inst. your not answering last Sunday's address.

£100 REWARD.

S. FITTON and SONS, Manufacturers of "HOVIS" FLOUR, Macclesfield, offer the above Reward for information sufficient to enable us to convict any person selling as "HOVIS" any Bread or Biscuits made wholly or partially of any Flour or Meal other than SMITH'S PATENT "HOVIS" FLOUR.

"To Messrs. S. Fitton and Sons,
"'Hovis' Flour Mills, Macclesfield.
"High-street, St. Mary Cray, Kent.
"November 1st, 1894.

"Gentlemen,—

"I hereby express to you my deep sorrow and regret for having sold whole Meal Bread of my own make to customers as 'Hovis' Bread, well knowing the same not to be made of the Flour specially manufactured by you, and known as 'Hovis' Flour Bread; and I hereby undertake in the future not to represent to anyone, or to sell or pass off to anyone, any Bread or Confectionery unless made of the real Flour, as prepared by you.

"I also consent to your making whatever use you desire of this Letter of Apology.

"I remain, gentlemen,
"Your obedient servant,
"JAMES MITCHELL.

"Witness to the signature of the said James Mitchell,
"JOHN J. CLARK,
"Clerk to Greaville Smith and Co.,
"14, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.,
"Solicitors."

PERSONAL.—(CONTINUED).

IF JAMES SCHOFIELD,

UNCLE to MARY SCHOFIELD, deceased, who in December, 1881, was residing in or near Manchester, will communicate at once with the undersigned he will hear of something greatly to his advantage.

Dated the 21st day of January, 1895.
ROBBINS, BILLING, and CO.,
Surrey House,
Victoria Embankment, London,
Solicitors.

DETECTIVES.

IF you desire a MYSTERY CLEARED UP, or the doings of a suspected person secretly ascertained, consult SLATER . . . "the greatest detective of the age."—Vide Press. His consultations are free.—1, Basinghall-street, London, E.C.

MATRIMONIAL.

WILL E. S., Box 15,265, communicate, giving Name and Address, with office.

MATRIMONIAL.—Widower, 55, would like to correspond with Spinster or Widow of some means (if small); no agents.—C., Box 15,434, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—Lady, having large means and considerable amount of property in houses, land, and stocks, wishes to marry.—Address, Box 432, "Advertiser" Office, Bristol.

A GENTLEMAN, aged 29, bank cashier, wishes to meet with a Lady of independent means, with a view to matrimony; bona fide.—Address, H. G., 2, Shepherd's Bush Green, London, W.

YOUNG Author-Actor desires to correspond with sympathetic Lady of independent means, matrimonially inclined; no agents or triflers.—Address, in confidence, Alexander, 13, Soho-st., W.

MATRIMONY.—Gentleman, 37, good income, wishes correspondence with Young Lady, must be good figure, stylish, and amiable.—Reply, in strict confidence, C. E., Box 15,475, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—Bachelor, 26, desires to correspond with Lady of some means, widow not objected to.—Fullest particulars in strict confidence to J. E. W., c.o. Newsagent, 108, Royal-road, Kennington Park.

YOUNG Lady, 24, affectionate, domesticated, fond of home, wishes to correspond, view matrimony, with a Gentleman; not particular to age if loving and affectionate.—Clara, Box 15,414, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

GENTLEMAN, 24, tall, dark, wishes to make the acquaintance of affectionate Young Lady, with small means preferred, view to early matrimony; references exchanged.—Address, in strict confidence, J. A., c.o. 30, Newcastle-street, Strand, W.C.

MATRIMONY.—Young Man wishes to meet nice, loving Woman, with fair means, must be willing to invest in grand enterprise.—Full particulars to Orpheus, Box 15,425, "People," Arundel-street, Strand. Absolutely genuine.

MATRIMONY.—Young Man, 21, good appearance, desires acquaintance of good-looking, superior Domestic; photo, which will be returned; strict secrecy; no agents; genuine replies.—S. S., c.o. 235, Liverpool-road, N.

GENTLEMAN, widower, in baker's business, with about £300, would like to meet with a middle-aged Lady, with some capital, view marriage.—Please send photo by letter to X. P., 17, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.

MATRIMONY.—Widower wants Lady between 30 and 40 years of age to manage branch of an established business, or able to invest a little capital; every investigation.—Address, J. T., Box 15,462, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

WIDOWER (no children), age 55, looks younger, is desirous of marrying again; Lady must be over 40 and have £200 at command; advertiser has a business and can prove his thorough respectability and position.—Lonely, Box 15,466, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—Lady, 26, without means, dark, attractive, well educated, affectionate, desires to correspond with Gentleman, who must be educated and refined, and possessed of a moderate income; honourable privacy.—E. M., Box 15,436, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

A GENTLEMAN, good looking, aged 37, and having £70 a year from invested money, wishes to marry a Lady, not over 30, having not less than £300 a year; strictest secrecy preserved; agents ignored.—Address, H. R., Box 15,438, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—Gentleman, 42, widower, private income £100 per annum, is desirous of meeting Lady with some capital, but latter not so essential as a warm and true-hearted woman; in confidence state full particulars, with photo.—Ernest, Box 15,476, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—An elderly Spinster, very musical and refined, respectably connected, with considerable capital and independent means, wishes to marry an honourable, educated, Christian Gentleman; temperate habits essential; secrecy expected.—Address, Miss Kershaw, 63, Grosvenor-street, London, W.

MATRIMONY.—Would a kind and affectionate Christian Lady, aged about 35, with means, fond of home and children, care to correspond with middle-aged Gentleman, widower, engaged in business, with comfortable home, &c.? Full particulars, with photo; genuine, no agents.—Address, Beatrice, c.o. Chas. Tayler and Co., Advertising Agents, 154, Fleet-street, London.

A WELL-EDUCATED, steady Clerk, 28, salary £2 2s., would like to hear from an affectionate Young Lady, short and slight, between 22 and 26, with view to early marriage, who would contribute towards furnishing home.—Particulars and photo, which will be returned, to Scribe, Box 15,300, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

GENTLEMAN, partner in large poultry farm, Sussex, good-looking, strong, and businesslike, aged 38, wishes to meet Lady about same age, fond of country life, with capital not less than £450, with view to early marriage; no replies entertained unless bona fide.—Address, P. N., Box 15,455, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

BACHELOR desires to meet Young Lady, view marriage; advertiser is young, well-connected, owner of a large increasing business, with first-rate prospects, fond of home life; refined, intelligent, well-connected Young Lady would be highly appreciated; with or without means is immaterial; if means please state; this is genuine and confidential.—Randolph, Box 15,477, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY.—A tall, well-educated, and refined Gentleman (35) in robust health, and possessing a large estate and income, wishes to correspond with a Lady (spinster or widow), respectably connected, and of amiable disposition, with a view to marriage; substantial marriage settlement made, and any lady having means, the same would be settled upon herself; strict secrecy.—Address, Mr. J. Norton, 54, New Oxford-street, London, W.C.

MATRIMONY.—A Bachelor of good family and position, with a fair allowance, widely travelled, of rather a jolly disposition, but of positively strictly domesticated habits, and so forth, desires immediate marriage with a Lady (maiden or otherwise) with good means, homely, tender, and very confiding, and all that sort of thing; age relatively immaterial, but means essential.—Reply, in strictest confidence, to S. G. O., Box 15,407, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

THE MATRIMONIAL HERALD and FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE GAZETTE. Official Organ of the World's Great Marriage Association, Limited. Est. 1883. Recommended by the Clergy. Brilliantly successful negotiations for 1894. Marvellous increase in marriages. Exclusively patronised by the nobility, professional and commercial classes throughout the British Empire. Its magnificent and practically illimitable clientèle daily augmented by private recommendations from associates happily and advantageously married. Charges merely nominal. Strict secrecy. In plain sealed envelope, 3d.—Editor, 40, Lamb's Conduit-street, London W.C.

WIDOWS PREFERRED.—A gentleman by birth and education, age 38, of vast commercial experience, and engaged on his own account in one of the most money making and progressive businesses extant, requires additional capital, in conjunction with which, and his enlightened and vigorous management, a colossal success is assured. Correspondence invited from Ladies of means, with view to an early marriage; age must not exceed 45, and capital at command must not be less than £700.—Please state true financial position; all replies will be treated in strictest confidence.—Please address in first instance, Brilliancy, Box 15,382, "People," Arundel-street, Strand, London.

OFFICIAL SITUATIONS.

WANTED, a LEADING DRUMMER for 4th Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Young Man preferred; must know music; on enlistment will receive bounty of £2.—Apply, Adjutant, 4th Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Cowley Barracks, Oxford.

Royal Navy and Royal Marines.

VACANCIES for smart, active Boys, age 15 to 16½, to train as seamen; and for Youths, age 16½ to 18. Also for the ROYAL MARINES, age 17 to 23.—Apply, 22, Spring Gardens, Charing Cross; or 23, King-street, Tower Hill; or 2, Queen's Cottages, King's-road, Kingston.

Active Young Men Out of Employment, BETWEEN 18 and 25.

APPLY to Recruiting Officers, St. George's Barracks, Charing Cross; No. 1, Sharpe's Buildings, King-street, Tower Hill; Hounslow Barracks; or Woolwich, for all information. A pamphlet, "Advantages of the Army," can be had free at any Post Office. Weekly pocket money, 3s. to 4s. 6d.

Stokers for the Royal Navy. AGE 19 to 25.

STRONG healthy Men can be entered in the Royal Navy as STOKERS. No previous experience necessary. Desirable men between 18 and 19 years of age may be entered specially.

Full information can be obtained from any of H.M. Ships and Coastguard Stations, and from the Admiralty Recruiting Depot, 22, Spring Gardens, S.W.

St. George's Union, London.

THE Guardians require a NIGHT NURSE for their INFIRMARY in the FULHAM-ROAD, WEST BROMPTON.

Candidates must be between 21 and 35 years of age, able to write well, and have had one year's previous experience. Apply personally to the Matron at the Infirmary any day, Sunday excepted, not later than 12.0 o'clock on or before Saturday, the 2nd February next.

No travelling expenses allowed.

Kensington Infirmary.

WANTED, TEMPORARY NURSES at once. Wages of 18s. a week, with apartments, board, and washing. Candidates, who must have had at least one year's experience in nursing, are required to apply at 11.0 a.m. on Monday, the 28th January, to the Matron, at the Infirmary, in the Marloes-road, Kensington. No travelling expenses allowed.

By order,
JNO. H. RUTHERGLEN, Clerk.
Guardians' Offices, Marloes-road, Kensington, W.
23rd January, 1895.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

GENERAL, age 17, neat, willing girl, 3 months' personal character, wages 3s.—Clara, Hetherington's, 6, Shepherd's Bush Green.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 17, tall, strong, and willing, 12 months' good character, wages £10.—Kate, Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18, plain cooking, 8 months' character, £12; Young General, 15, tall, fond of children, good character, 3s. 6d. weekly.—Hetherington's, 108, High-street, Putney.

YOUNG GENERAL, 15, tall, neat, 1 year's 6 months' character, 3s. 6d. weekly, Florence; also General, 19, and 12 months' character, £10.—Hetherington's, 109, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 20, can do plain cooking, strong, clean, willing, and obliging, 10 months' character, £12.—Bertha, Hetherington's, 236, Strand, W.C.

GENERAL, age 21, neat appearance, understands good plain cooking, 4 years and 6 months, wages £14.—L. G., Hetherington's, 263, Mile End-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 17, in business house, strong, willing, good references, wages £10.—Edith, Hetherington's, 50, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

REQUIRED, by superior Widow, middle-aged, re-engagement as Housekeeper to elderly gentleman, thoroughly domesticated, good references, own furniture, view marriage.—Flint, Box 15,474, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

COACH PAINTER.—Young Man wants constancy; good liner and finisher; would suit cab proprietor or job master.—A. P., 181, Ball's Pond-road, N.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 20 to 22, small family, wages £16.—E., 50, Cranter-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

KITCHENMAID and SCULLERYMAID wanted for hotel, £20 and £16, can enter situation on Monday.—Hetherington's, 236, Strand, W.C.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 25, for a small flat, 2 in family, plain cooking, £18 to £20.—Mrs. M., Hetherington's, 236, Strand, W.C.

GENERAL wanted, 18 to 25, personal character preferred, 3 in family, wages £12 to £14.—Mrs. Crook, 42, Westbourne-terrace, North.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, about 15, to sleep out, hours 8 till 8, for 3 in family.—Write full particulars to J. C. S., 1, Ferndale-terrace, Ferndale-road, Leytonstone.

GENERAL wanted, age 18 to 20, 2 in family, easy place, no cooking, no washing, wages £12 to £14.—Mrs. H., Hetherington's, 6, Shepherd's Bush Green.

PLAIN COOK wanted, 2 in family, Houseparlourmaid kept, boy for boots, &c., £20 to £22.—Call, Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-street, Kensington.

GENERAL wanted, age 17 to 20, lady superintends cooking, no washing, wages £12 to £16, 2 in family.—Call or write, Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-street, Kensington.

GENERAL, age 25 to 35, for business house, little cooking, wages 6s. weekly; also Housemaid, age 18 to 20, wages 5s. weekly.—Mrs. L., Hetherington's, 263, Mile End-road.

WANTED, good plain COOK GENERAL, age 25 to 35, personal reference, another kept, 4 in family, small house, £16.—Ambrissette, Streatham-place, Brixton Hill, S.W.

CHILDREN'S MAID wanted, 2 children, youngest 4 years, plain serving, very comfortable situation, good wages.—Mrs. Pipe, 50, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, London.

COOK wanted, wages about £20; also House-Parlourmaid, about £18, for elderly lady and gentleman, no family, light place.—Mrs. Pipe, 50, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, London.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, for widow lady, no family, very light and comfortable situation, good wages.—Mrs. May, 26, Tottenham Court-road, London.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, 20 to 25, 2 in family, £16; also several Cooks, Nurses, and Young Girls, for housework, good wages.—Apply, Hetherington's, 108, High-street, Putney.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted at once, age about 20, good character, no washing, wages 16s. per month.—Apply, M.P., 1, St. Stephen's Avenue, Shepherd's Bush.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 17 to 20, 2 in family, small house, washing sent out, good home, wages £12 to £15.—Call or write to Mrs. G., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

KITCHENMAID, £14 to £17, wanted, good family, L.; Between Maid, £12, easy, S.; General, for 3 in family, no washing, dine early, £14 to £16, good home, S.—Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-rd., Bayswater.

COOK-GENERAL wanted, for a school, age 25 to 40, must be clean and active, housemaid kept, £16, and 1s. washing.—Apply, Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgravia.

YOUNG GIRL wanted, sleep home, 3s. 6d. weekly; Nurse, £16; House-Parlourmaid, £18; Housemaid, £18; Generals, for flats, £15.—Apply, Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgravia.

COOK, Parlourmaid, and Housemaid wanted, also one to help, General may do, 3 in family, no children, just taken town house, excellent situation, good wages.—Mrs. Long, 5, Glendower-place, near South Kensington Station, London.

HOUSEMAID, 17 to 20, General would suit, to be trained, £10 to £12, cook kept; 2 servants wanted, General, to cook plain, and Housemaid, £14 to £16.—Mrs. H., Hetherington's, 109, Queen's-road, Peckham.

USEFUL MAID wanted to little girl 13 years, £20 to £25, no dressmaking, H.; House-Parlourmaid, £20; Ten Housemaids wanted, £10 to £18; General, for 1 lady, £12, B.—Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

SERVANTS.—Cooks (plain), House-parlourmaids, and good Generals requiring situations should apply at the old-established agency, Soho Bazaar, 77, Oxford-street, London, where ladies wait daily, to interview servants, 10.0 to 4.0 o'clock.

WANTED, Lady Housekeeper, smart, experienced, for board and lodging-house, with £50 at command.—Address, A. H., Box 15,472, "People," Arundel-street, Strand.

BOOT TRADE.—Infants' nursery work, Sewers wanted.—64, Pentonville-road.

APPRENTICE.—Wanted, respectable YOUTH, about 14, good writer, by a Law Stationer; no premium required.—Apply, 122, Chancery-lane.

OSTRICH FEATHER HANDS wanted.—Curlers, Sewer, also Apprentices.—Apply to J. P. Capern, 29, Redcross-street, Cripplegate, E.C.

NAVAL and MILITARY WORSTED and COTTON EMBROIDERY is now done by Machinery.—For quotations apply, J. Hollinghurst, 170, St. John-street, E.C.

BARMEN, BARMAIDS, &c., seeking employment. Only official medium belonging to the trade. Always vacancies for experienced and inexperienced hands.—Be careful to note the address, The Licensed Victuallers Central Protection Society of London, Limited (established 1850), 71, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, good practical Jam and Marmalade Maker; permanent situation.—Apply by letter, giving particulars of all previous experience, age, and salary expected, in confidence, to Mardy, c.o. Messrs. Deacons, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

PERSONS WANTED for Home Sewing.—£1 weekly earned; patterns and book instructions, 6 stamps; many employment advertisements mislead, this is genuine.—Wilby, Savile Town, Dewsbury.

HOME WRITING, copying recipes, remuneration from 1s. per dozen copies; sample recipes 1s. 1d. (returnable unless appointed) and stamped addressed envelope.—Stanley, Bellison-street, Poplar, London.

£2 WEEKLY upwards may be realised by either sex, without hindering occupation.—For samples (returnable), enclose addressed envelope, Evans, Watts, and Co. (P. 1,135), Birmingham. Genuine.

5s. A WEEK salary and upwards offered to any person having spare time; town or country; the work could be done evenings.—Apply, with addressed envelope, to W. Francis and Co., 12, Norland-road North, Notting Hill, London, W.

10s. 6d. a week salary to 21s. offered to either sex (for spare hours) everywhere; the work can be done evenings.—Apply, enclosing an addressed envelope, to F. Paynter and Co., St. Marychurch, Torquay. Established 1890.

12s. 6d. A WEEK salary offered to either sex (for spare hours) everywhere. The work can be done evenings.—Apply, enclosing an addressed envelope, to T. Smith & Co., F. 108, St. Helen's Gardens, North Kensington, London, W. Established 1889.

AGENTS Wanted.—Money easily made in spare time; best paying agency going; experience unnecessary; constant income assured; particulars free, also Pocket Rubber Stamp of your Name and Address.—The Richford Mfg. Co., Snow Hill, London.

LADIES earn 15s. to 30s. weekly at home by New Automatic Knitter; cash or hire; work can be had.—Address, P. S. Company, 6, Southwark-street, London; 55, Oxford-street, W.; or 132, Upper-street, London.

EMPLOYMENT for all classes can be obtained at once.—Call, or send envelope to Sydney Smith and Co., 326, High Holborn. Est. 1860. The most reliable medium in London. Engagements daily. Registry fee, 1s.

TEA, TEA, TEA.—Agents wanted to sell our Packet Teas from 1oz. to 1lb.; splendid profits; distance no object; loose Tea, Sugar, Coffee, and Cocoa, &c., supplied at lowest market prices; price lists free; samples 3 stamps.—Stock and Company, 171, Lambeth Walk, London, S.E.

AGENTS and CLUB MANAGERS wanted to sell on easy terms, Watches, Jewellery, and other Goods; first-class men in permanent employment will find this the most remunerative Agency in existence.—J. Hamilton and Co., 3, Commercial Buildings, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MEN, youths, shop assistants, every description, gardeners, grooms, coachmen, butlers, valets, footmen, handymen, pages, messengers, caretakers, attendants, heavy or light porters, club, hotel, coffee palace, or public business, carmen, clerks, farmers' sons, also all farm hands wanting a change, and all requiring any employment, indoor or out, write or call; from town or country; "Situation Guide" free; busy time; hundreds suited.—Tanner and Co., 112, Newington Causeway, London. Men, late Army, Navy, or Merchant Service also write.

BUSINESSES, HOUSES, &c.

FREEHOLD LAND for SALE within 7 miles; prices from 20s.; easy instalments.—F. Ravenscroft, Southampton Buildings, W.C.

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AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.—North German Lloyd.—Low Third-class Fares from LONDON, regular monthly sailings, SACHSEN, 5,026 tons, February 18th, and every 28 days. Passengers taken free from Liverpool-street Station two days before sailing. Homeward tickets issued. Electric light throughout, and excellent accommodation for all classes.—Apply to Keller, Wallis, and Co., 65, 66, and 67, Gracechurch-street, City, and at 32, Cockspur-street, Charing Cross, London; or Phillipps and Graves, Botolph House, Eastcheap, E.C.

AMERICAN LINE, £2 (United States Mail steamers).—SOUTHAMPTON to NEW YORK direct Every Saturday. Free rail ticket London to the steamers. £2 per Adult. Food and ship kit free.

s.s. CHESTER, 5,000 tons, February 2nd.
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L'POOL to PHILA., NEW YORK, Wed., £1 16s.
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Accommodation amidships. Music and smoking-rooms, electric light, and every comfort for a long voyage. Low fares, single and return. Intending settlers going out under arrangement with the Agent-general for New Zealand, special advantages.

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UPON APPROVED PROMISSORY NOTES, without Sureties or Deductions, to Male or Female, in Town or Country, as follows:—

£20, repayable in 24 Monthly Instalments of	£0	18	4	
£50 " " " "		2	5	10
£100 " " " "		4	11	8

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No Commission or Legal Expenses. A guarantee given of strictest privacy.—Apply for Prospectus to UNITED KINGDOM DEPOSIT BANK, 35, Craven-street, Strand, London.—A. G. WILLIS, Manager.

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£25, repayable 24 monthly instalments	£1	2 5
£50 " " "	£2	4 10
£100 " " "	£4	9 7

Larger sums in proportion. Strict privacy guaranteed. No commissions charged. Distance no object.—Apply, D. WILLIAMS, 15, York-road, Waterloo Bridge, London, S.E.

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NO FEES. NO FEES.

ON simple Note of Hand. No Bills of Sale or Securities required. £10 to £1,000 advanced by Mr. KING, 68, Queen Victoria-st., City, in a few hours.

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£10 to £500 advanced by a private gentleman to responsible persons at a few hours' notice, on note of hand alone, at reasonable interest, easy repayments, capital can remain if required; no publicity; distance no object; strictest privacy. To start in business, furnish your house, to pay your debts or rent, or pay out an execution. No genuine application ever refused.—Apply personally, or write to actual lender, AUGS. FISHER, 16, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C. (close to Broad-street Railway Station).

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AT a few hours' notice.—A private gentleman is prepared to make CASH ADVANCES from £10 to £1,000 at 5 per cent. to responsible persons (male or female), in any part of England, Scotland, or Wales, upon NOTE OF HAND ALONE, without loan office formalities. Easy repayments or advance can remain at interest.—Apply personally, or by letter, to the actual lender,

H. P. CALVERT, Esq.,
35, Camden Grove, Peckham, S.E.

MONEY ADVANCED PRIVATELY AT A FEW HOURS' NOTICE,

FROM £10 to £2,000, at 5 per cent., to responsible persons in town or country, upon NOTE OF HAND, without sureties. Repayments made by easy instalments to suit borrowers, or capital can remain from 1 to 15 years so long as the interest is paid quarterly. No genuine application ever refused. Distance no object.—Apply, in confidence, either personally or by letter, to A. W. CAMERON, Esq., 130, Westminster Bridge-road, London, S.E.

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HOUSEHOLDERS, LODGERS, and others, male or female, requiring an IMMEDIATE ADVANCE of CASH from £25 to £2,000, without fees, sureties, or delay, before wasting time elsewhere should call or write, stating full particulars (in strict confidence), to the actual lender,

W. WILBERFORCE,
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(One Minute from Finsbury Park Station.)

N.B.—Being the actual lender, and having a large surplus capital, advances are granted without delay, and no genuine application is ever refused.

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ADVANCES made on Note of Hand, &c., at one day's notice (without preliminary fees), on following terms, including principal and interest:—

£10 ... Weekly repayments for one year,	£0	4	6
£20 ... " " "	£0	8	6
£30 ... " " "	£0	12	9
£40 ... " " "	£0	17	0
£50 ... " " "	£1	1	3
£100 ... " " "	£2	3	6

Other amounts in same proportion. Monthly and Quarterly Payments arranged. Prospectus gratis or post free.

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HOUSEHOLDERS, Lodgers, Single Persons (male or female) accommodated with LOANS from £5 to £500, on promissory notes, furniture, &c., life policies, &c., without any deduction, and at ONE CLEAR DAY'S NOTICE, 5 per cent. inclusive interest, for stated periods. Strict secrecy in all transactions. Write or call. Office hours, 10 to 8.—Manager, Mr. MITCHELL.

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(REGISTERED),

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Advance £25 12 monthly repayments of £2 3s. 10d.
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"Larger amounts the same in proportion."

ADVANCES of £30 to £2,000 granted at a few hours' notice, in town or country, male or female, on mortgage of furniture, trade and farm stock, plant, crops, &c., without removal, and to assist persons into business. Also on deeds, policies, and reversions, for one month to 14 years. Easy repayments.

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Subject to 3 mths. notice of withdrawal, £5 per cent.
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Special terms for larger amounts. Interest paid quarterly, free of income tax. Write or call for Prospectus.

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Kitchen	18s. 6d.	18s. 0d.
Nuts	19s. 6d.	19s. 0d.
Cobbles	18s. 6d.	18s. 0d.
Hard Cobbles	19s. 6d.	18s. 0d.
Coke (per 12 sacks)	12s. 0d.	17s. 0d.

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THE Finest, Most Refreshing, and Pleasantest Beverage obtainable.

ONE TABLESPOONFUL OF THIS EXTRACT MAKES ONE GALLON OF SPLENDID BEER.

Try it. A sample bottle (enough to make eight gallons) post free for nine stamps.

NEWBALL AND MASON,
NOTTINGHAM.

MASON'S WINE ESSENCES, non-intoxicating. For children's parties and social gatherings. A 6d. bottle will make one gallon of delicious Wine. Post free 9 stamps, or a bottle of both Extract of Herbs and Wine Essence, post free 15 stamps.

AGENTS WANTED.

THE SWEETS PAR EXCELLENCE.

DEVONA. Made with fresh Clotted Cream. The unique and delicate flavour of Devona is the result of its choice ingredients, producing a fragrance hitherto unattained.

CHOCOLATE DEVONA. This is chocolate in its most delicious form as a sweetmeat. Sold everywhere in 1d. and 2d. Packets.

SWEETS. SWEETS. SWEETS.

CROUCH & CO., 179 & 181, LAMBETH WALK, S.E. THE CHEAPEST WHOLESALE HOUSE IN THE TRADE FOR BOILED GOODS.—Brown Sugar Goods, 3d. per lb., 7lb. 1s. 1d.; Lump, 3d. per lb., 7lb. 1s. 6d. Country orders of £1 and upwards carriage paid, or 5 per cent. discount in lieu thereof. Town orders delivered by our own carts. Write for price lists, which are free.

FIRST GRAND "PIONEER" REDUCTION SALE.

REMARKS.—A lady customer writes complaining that we send out too large a Carpet for the money. Be this so or not, we send out no carpet measuring less than 6ft. by 9ft.—even for 3s. 6d.

TEST THEM. THEY WILL SURPRISE YOU.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (Chancery Division).—Hodgson v. Webb Brothers.—On the 18th day of July, 1890, his Lordship, Mr. Justice Chitty, granted an interim injunction, restraining Messrs. Webb Brothers, of Hackney Wick, from infringing Mr. Fredk. Hodgson's Trade Mark "Eclipse," No. 88,776 (Leeds).

EXTRAORDINARY REDUCTIONS.

100,000 "ECLIPSE" CARPETS

(Reg.). GUARANTEED GENUINE BARGAINS.

SALE PRICE	THIS GIGANTIC OFFER is a special contract made to readers of THE PEOPLE only.	SALE PRICE
3s. 6d. EACH.		3s. 6d. EACH.

WE will forward direct from the Looms to any address, on receipt of amount,

A GENUINE WOVEN SEAMLESS REVERSIBLE CARPET.

THE LARGEST EVER SOLD AT THE PRICE. Suitable for Sitting-room or Bed-room, bordered and woven in art colours, large enough to cover any ordinary sized room, as an advertisement (for our goods, thus saving any middle profits. Remember, these are woven, not printed, and are made of a material almost equal to Wool. Thousands of these Carpets and Rugs have already been sold at almost double above prices. A Rug sent with Carpet, is extra.

Kilkea Castle, Mageney, co. Kildare, August 11th, 1894.

LADY EVA FITZGERALD writes:—"The 'Eclipse' Carpets supplied by Messrs. F. Hodgson and Son—her ladyship is much pleased with them."

SPECIAL OFFER.

TWO CARPETS and TWO RUGS, 8s.; or FOUR CARPETS and FOUR RUGS, 15s. 6d.

Value unequalled in the annals of advertising. As a favour, kindly examine and compare these Carpets. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

Do not miss this opportunity; it may not occur again.

"PEOPLE" CARPET COUPON.
26, 1, 95.
On receipt of this Coupon and P.O.O. or stamps for amount, we guarantee to send goods as above to your address in any part of the United Kingdom. Cash returned in full if not satisfied.
(Signed) F. HODGSON and SON.

All orders despatched same day in rotation as they arrive by post. Cheques and P.O.O.'s payable to

F. HODGSON AND SON,
MANUFACTURERS, IMPORTERS, AND MERCHANTS,
WOODSLEY-ROAD, LEEDS.
N.B.—No Agents appointed.

WONDERFUL

25s. PARCEL FOR 21s. ONLY.

LAST WEEK OF NEW YEAR PRESENT.

EVERYBODY SHOULD HAVE ONE.

GUARANTEED CHEAPEST BEDDING PARCEL.

ONLY 300 LEFT TO CLEAR.

NOTE THE PRESENT AND BE IN TIME.

OVER 1,000 of these Marvellous Parcels sold last winter. Everyone delighted. Mr. Joseph Lloyd, of 21, Queen's-court, Queen's-street, Rhyl, writes:—"The parcel has arrived, and I am pleased to say that it suits capital. I think it is a very cheap lot, and I shall recommend you to any of my friends that will require anything in your line. My wife is very pleased with the things, and wishes to thank you very much for your promptitude."

PARCEL CONTAINS

One Pair Real Witney Blankets, full size; handsome Down Quilt, lovely design, with rich border; Pair handsome Dining Room Curtains, full size; also One Pair Bolton Sheets, full size; and with these Wonderful Parcels we give a handsome Down Sofa Cushion, with frilled edges. The Parcel and Present complete sent carriage free for 21s. only. 300 only to clear.

(Sole Proprietor, A. H. Taylor.)

PAUL TAYLOR,
MARKET HALL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM.
Money returned in full if satisfaction not given.
Established 50 years.

DON'T STARVE IN BED.

CLEARANCE SALE OF

REAL ARCTIC and EIDER DOWN QUILTS.

ARCTIC QUILTS, with handsome border and figured sateen centre, patent ventilators, and latest improvements, 2 inches by 60 inches wide, sent carriage free to any address for 5s. 11d.; larger size, 9s. 6d.

REAL DOWN QUILTS, in best sateen. Grand designs, and filled with best goose down. Must clear for immediate stock-taking, reduced to 13s. 6d., 14s. 6d. and 15s. 6d. each, very largest and best, 17s. 6d. only (usual price 27s. 6d.), all sent carriage free. Don't miss this opportunity.

PAUL TAYLOR
(Sole Proprietor, A. H. Taylor),
MARKET HALL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM.
Established 50 years.

Send for 1895 Bedding List, Feather Beds, Carpets, Ready-made Bed Ticks, Brass and Iron Bedsteads, Wool and Down Beds, &c., post free on application.

THOMAS WALLIS and CO., Ltd.,

HOLBORN CIRCUS, LONDON, E.C.,

Beg to announce that they will Sell on

TUESDAY NEXT, JANUARY 29TH,

A STOCK OF

CABINET FURNITURE,

MANUFACTURED by the well-known firm of Messrs. OLIVER and CO., Torquay.

The goods, which have been purchased at a large discount for cash, consist of

BED-ROOM SUITES, in Walnut, Mahogany, Ash, and Chestnut.

SIDEBOARDS, in Pollard Oak, Mahogany, and Walnut.

BOOKCASES, Writing Tables, and General Furniture.

DINING AND DRAWING-ROOM SUITES.

A quantity of FRENCH CABINETS, Tables, and Bureaux; a Stock of BRASS BEDSTEADS, fitted with Woven-wire Mattresses; a number of CHAIRS in Embossed Buffalo Hide, suitable for Dining-rooms, Hotels, and Restaurants, as well as a large purchase of

BOKHARA SEAMLESS CARPETS,

in useful sizes, and

BEST BRUSSELS CARPET

by the Yard, will be offered at the same time very much below regular prices.

THOMAS WALLIS AND CO., LTD.

FOR THE SEASON.

25 PER CENT. UNDER SHOPKEEPERS' PRICES. EVERY GARMENT MADE TO MEASURE.

OVERCOATS,

CHEVIOTS (Wire-woven),
MELTONS (Double milled), 21s.
BEAVERS (Satin finished).

Silk Velvet Collars, Plaid Cloth Lined. Unequalled for style, finish, and durability. Such value never before offered by any firm in the world.

HEAVY WEIGHT

25s. WIRE WOVE SERGES, CHEVIOTS, TWEEDS, and VICUNAS, 25s. SUIT. SUIT.

FOR AUTUMN AND WINTER WEAR.

PRESENTATION TROUSERS.

TO EVERY PURCHASER of one of our celebrated WIRE WOVE SERGE SUITS, WE PRESENT AN EXTRA PAIR OF TROUSERS FREE OF CHARGE.

We do this simply to advertise our goods and bring them to the public notice, feeling sure that one trial will make permanent customers.

If Suit or Overcoat is wanted at once, send height, size round chest and waist, and length of inside leg with Postal Order.

SAMPLE TROUSERS, TO MEASURE, 5s. 6d.

SEND FOR OUR SPLENDID SELECTION OF

AUTUMN AND WINTER PATTERNS,

TWEEDS, CHEVIOTS, SERGES, VICUNAS, DIAGONALS, &c.

All Patterns Free. Send postcard for New Season's Selections with easy self-measurement form.

WILSON AND CO., Co-operative Clothiers,
CITY OFFICE,
15, KNIGHTRIDER-STREET,
ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, E.C.

Bankers: London and South-western Bank. Gentlemen can be measured between the hours of 9.30 and 6.0 o'clock; Saturdays, 2.0 o'clock.

EXTRAORDINARY COSTUMES.

DIRECT from the largest Serge Mills in England. Improved Shape Skirts made to measure from our Celebrated Wire-wove Cheviot Serges, Black and Navy, lined throughout. Trimmed Military and Vandyke Braids, 4s. 9d. Including Stylish Blouse, braided to match, full fashionable sleeves, with yoke, lined, and belt, complete, 6s. 11d. Honestly worth double. Special 150 only All Wool Estamene Serge Skirts, extra wide shapes, lined through. Blacks, Navys, Cardinals, 6s. 9d. Worth 12s. 6d. Bodice Length, 2s. In ordering, send length skirt, waist. Hundreds of testimonials received weekly by

4s. 9d. WORTH 8s. 9d.

THOMAS AND COMPANY,
Manufacturers, GREEN LANE, DERBY.

TOBACCONISTS Commencing, Illd. Guide (250 pps.), 3d.—Tobacconists' Co., 186, Euston-rd., London. Also Stores for all trades. [illegible] free. Est. 1866.

HACKNEY FURNISHING COMPANY'S

NEW HIRE SYSTEM OF FURNISHING.

The Best, Cheapest, and Most Economical.

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MARE-STREET, HACKNEY, LONDON, N.E.

Easy access from all parts. Few minutes from City, Broad or Liverpool-street, book "Hackney." Illustrated Catalogues, Press Opinions, &c., post free.

NO SECURITY REQUIRED.
Delivery Free.
No Names on Vans.
Country Orders Carriage Paid.
Founded 1864.

FURNISH ON OUR THREE YEARS' SYSTEM.

GENERAL TERMS

Town or Country.

		£ s. d.	
£10 worth	....	0 6 0	per month.
£20 "	....	0 11 0	"
£30 "	....	0 17 0	"
£40 "	....	1 5 0	"
£50 "	....	1 8 0	"
£100 "	....	2 5 0	"
£200 "	....	5 0 0	"

Payments as may be arranged.

The "Evening News" said:—"The convenience of the hire system have never been more clearly demonstrated than in the transactions of this company. To be enabled to furnish a house in outdoor in any style one may fancy on a scale of extended payments is about as much as any one can wish, but the Hackney Furnishing Company offers other inducements—it charges only cash prices, without a bill of sale or other publicity. Persons about to furnish would do well to make themselves acquainted with the greatest advantages offered by this company, and to make a tour of inspection round the extensive show-rooms."—Dec. 3rd, 1892.

Entirely different from the moneylenders' system.

HACKNEY FURNISHING COMPANY,
TOWN HALL BUILDINGS,
MARE-STREET, HACKNEY, LONDON, N.E.
16, 19, 20, 21, 22, THE GROVE (adjoining).
Cheapest and Best in the Trade.
Write at once for Prospectus and Catalogue, free.

UNIVERSAL FURNISHING CO.

189 & 190, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.

FURNISH YOUR HOMES ON OUR IMPROVED SYSTEM BY EASY PAYMENTS.

UNIVERSAL FURNISHING CO.

Every description of
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
BRASS and IRON BEDSTEADS
CARPETS,
PIANOS, &c.

LOWEST TERMS IN THE TRADE.

UNIVERSAL FURNISHING CO

GENERAL TERMS

£10 worth	6s. 0d.	Monthly.
£20 "	11s. 0d.	"
£30 "	18s. 0d.	"
£40 "	£1 2s. 0d.	"
£50 "	£2 5s. 0d.	"
£100 "	£5 0s. 0d.	"

£500 and over by Special Arrangement.

UNIVERSAL FURNISHING CO.

189 AND 190, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.

ALL GOODS DELIVERED FREE IN PRIVATE VANS.

NO SECURITY REQUIRED.

GIGANTIC STOCK TO SELECT FROM.

CHEAPEST AND BEST HOUSE IN THE TRADE
(Five minutes' walk from Gower-street Station.)

NO EXTRA CHARGES. ONE PRICE ONLY

Intending purchasers will act wisely by visiting our establishment before calling elsewhere, and not be misled by flattering advertisements.

UNIVERSAL FURNISHING CO.,
189 AND 190, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD,
LONDON.

MIDLAND FURNISHING COMPANY.

69, 71, 73, 75, and 77, JUDD-STREET,
KING'S CROSS, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

TERMS FOR FURNISHING BY EASY INSTALMENTS.

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

£10 worth	...	£0 6s. 0d.	per Month.
£20 "	...	£0 11s. 0d.	"
£30 "	...	£0 16s. 0d.	"
£40 "	...	£1 2s. 0d.	"
£50 "	...	£1 7s. 0d.	"
£100 "	...	£2 5s. 0d.	"

READ WHAT THE PRESS SAYS:—

The MORNING LEADER, Dec. 13th, 1893, states: "The Midland Furnishing Company, whose great range of premises are in Judd-street, have conducted their Hire Purchase Business now for many years. The manager produces letters from men and women of almost all grades of society, expressing their pleasure at the treatment they have received. They keep everything in stock likely to be required in furnishing a house or a mansion."

DELIVERY FREE.

COUNTRY ORDERS CARRIAGE PAID.

Prospectus, Catalogue, and Press Opinions Post Free.

MIDLAND FURNISHING COMPANY,
69, 71, 73, 75, 77, JUDD-STREET, KING'S CROSS.
(Close to all the principal Railway Stations.)

THE ISLINGTON FURNISHING COMPANY,

365, 366, 367, UPPER-STREET (Opposite the Agricultural Hall), ISLINGTON.

SUPPLIES all kinds of Household Furniture, Carpets, Bedding, Pianos, Perambulators, &c., on their well-known easy terms. Call and inspect the stock, which will be guaranteed, and any article not approved of will be exchanged. This firm has no connection with firms who are frequently figuring in the courts, and thereby have brought the system into disrepute, but is managed by Mr. T. LIVERMORE (formerly Manager to the late Mr. Moeder, who was the pioneer of our Easy System), who will be glad to see the customers of his late firm.

This Company is not connected with such firms whose goods are even lower than their terms. Prospectus and Price List Free. Goods sent any distance.

FURNISH ON THE LIFE ASSURANCE SYSTEM.

Without Premium or Medical Examination.

NORMAN AND STACEY, LTD., have now introduced a Furnishing System by which Customers can obtain for a small Monthly Payment the immediate enjoyment of a home of their own, which, in the event of death, becomes the property of the surviving family without any further payment.

118, QUEEN VICTORIA-STREET.
Terms made to suit Customers.
No large first payment. Goods delivered free.

THE STRATFORD FURNISHING CO.,

196 AND 198, THE GROVE, STRATFORD, E.

CASH OR EASY TERMS FURNISHERS.

INTENDING Purchasers will gain by applying for our Price List and Prospectus before deciding elsewhere, for they will find that we are offering our goods at least 20 per cent. below other houses, and at the same time giving all advertised advantages.

THE HOPWOOD CALICOES.

DIRECT FROM THE MILL.

EVERY Lady should send her Address to the Hopwood Manufacturing Company, Princess Mills, Heywood, near Manchester, for Patterns and Prices of Pure Calicoes, Twills, Long-cloths, Sheetings, and Seamless Pillow-casings, which are forwarded free and need not be returned. Great Saving in Prices. Any Length Cut. Purity Guaranteed. All Goods Carriage paid. No Agents.

WARDROBE DEALERS.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. and MRS. ROSE, 26, Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly (few doors from Wardour-street), can supply the trade with a £3, £5, or £10 Trial Bale of their well-assorted goods, which come to them direct from private houses. Bankers' reference. Estd. 30 years. N.B.—Private buyers liberally treated.

WARDROBES.

LADIES wishing for Handsome Clothes, can be well suited from a large variety. Dresses for Day and Evening, Mantles in all the New Shapes, Sealskins in the Present Fashion, Teagowns, Boas, Habits, Millinery. All goods up to date and very cheap.—Mrs. MAUNDER, 101, Edgware-road, W. The Trade supplied.

LADIES' JACKETS.

7s. 11d., Carriage 6d. extra. Send for Designs and Patterns of cloth, post free, of the cheapest Jacket on earth. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.—HALF-PRICE MANTLE CO., 147, Caledonian-road, London.

BRITISH ARMY GREY BLANKETS

ALL WOOL, weighing 6lbs., 8ft. by 6ft., 2s. each, or 22s. per Dozen, a warm blanket, and a good article for charities. Sample one, post free 2s. 6d.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, RYE.

TO DEALERS IN SECOND-HAND CLOTHES.

A LARGE stock of Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's clothing in good style and quality. Also Bales of Assorted Goods from £2 to £10, to be had of H. HENRY, 28, Wardour-street, few doors from Leicester-square, W.

HEIGHT INCREASED

THREE INCHES WITHOUT DETECTION BY PINET'S BOOT AND SHOE ELEVATORS. Patented. Can be worn in any boot or shoe. Mons. PINET, C.J., 58, Berners-st., Oxford-st., London. Pamphlet and Testimonials, one stamp.

E. THOMAS AND SON'S

EASY HIRE SYSTEM.

297 and 298, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD, and 1, CHENIES-STREET, W.C.

39 and 41, CHARLOTTE-ST., FITZROY-SQUARE, W. (10 doors from Hearts of Oak Benefit Society).

The OLDEST and LARGEST FIRM in the HIRE TRADE.

TOWN or COUNTRY. Goods marked in plain figures. No extra charge for anything. No security required. Fifty show-rooms to select from.

MARRYING COUPLES, SEEK YOUR BARGAINS WITH US.

Hours of business, 9.0 till 9.0. Thursdays, 4.0.

GENERAL TERMS

(subject to Reduction to suit customers convenience).

£5 } £10 } worth	....	2s. 6d. per week	......	10s. monthly.
£20	"	3s. 9d.	"	15s. "
£30	"	5s. 0d.	"	20s. "
£40	"	6s. 6d.	"	26s. "
£50	"	7s. 6d.	"	30s. "
£100	"	12s. 6d.	"	50s. "

Strictly private. All goods delivered free. Prospectus, estimates, and illustrated General Furnishing Guide post free.

Our system the cheapest and most accommodating in the world.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL FURNISHING COMPANY.

251, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.

FURNISH ON OUR

Well-known SYSTEM of
Easy Weekly or
Monthly Payments.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL FURNISHING CO.

FURNITURE, BEDSTEADS, BEDDING, PIANOS, CARPETS, &c.
New and Secondhand.

GENERAL TERMS.

£10 worth	....	6s. 0d.	monthly.
£20 "	....	11s. 0d.	"
£30 "	....	20s. 0d.	"
£50 "	....	28s. 0d.	"
£100 "	....	60s. 0d.	"

Or by special arrangement.
No security required.
Private vans only used.

C. and G. BENNETT,

58, WESTBOURNE GROVE, W.

HAVE on Sale in their Show Rooms, as above, a vast Stock of DRAWING, DINING, and BED-ROOM FURNITURE, in fact, every Requisite for Furnishing Cottages, Hotels, or Mansions, and which will be supplied for

CASH or CREDIT.—Note, NO EXTRA CHARGES. Customers can have an Estimate for Furnishing or part Furnishing Free of Charge. Any single article may be had, and the payments are arranged to suit customers' incomes. A great feature is

FREE DELIVERY.—NO SECURITY REQUIRED. Two minutes' walk from the Royal Oak, and nearly opposite Whiteley's. C. and G. Bennett can and will give you satisfaction. No importunity to purchase if you will only

INSPECT BEFORE DECIDING ELSEWHERE, when C. and G. BENNETT are convinced that the superior quality of the goods, coupled with the easy terms for payment of same, will find favour in the eyes of a discriminating public.

Catalogues with full particulars free.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

Supplied by

THE WITTAM COMPANY,
231, OLD-STREET,
A few doors from City-road, E.C.

THE EASIEST TERMS IN LONDON, Either Weekly, Monthly, or Quarterly.

£10,000 STOCK ON OWN PREMISES TO SELECT FROM. Any Amount Supplied.

OUR SPECIALITIES.

One Room Furnished complete, £5. Two Rooms, £10. Three Rooms, £15; Four Rooms £25. Write for Price List, which contains full description of above goods, also full particulars of our well-known System, and a few of the NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS received by us.

Please note we have only one Establishment, 231, Old-street, City-road, E.C., where we always have on view £10,000 Stock.

All goods delivered free in plain vans.

S. LIMMONS,

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHER,

supplies every requisite suitable for Houses or Apartments, such as Cabinets, Sideboards, Drawing, Dining, and Bed-room Suites, Bedsteads, Bedding, Overmantels, Carpets, Linoleums, Fenders, &c.

CASH or CREDIT WITHOUT SECURITY by weekly, monthly, or quarterly payments. Immense Stock to select from. Strictly private. Delivered Free, in plain vans. Catalogues and full particulars free.

26, BUCKINGHAM PALACE-ROAD, S.W.

(near Buckingham Palace and Victoria Station).

'Buses and trains from all parts.

Business hours, 9.0 a.m. to 8.0 p.m.; Saturdays, 5.0 p.m.

FURNITURE! FURNITURE!! FURNITURE!!!

MARVELLOUS SUCCESS

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.

THOUSANDS of HOMES have been Comfortably Furnished by us on our Easy Terms. £5 to £500 worth of Good Household Furniture, Bedsteads, Bedding, Carpets, Rugs, Overmantels, Fenders, Fireirons, Blankets, Quilts, Dinner and Tea Services, &c., &c., can be had from 1s. 6d. weekly. Terms arranged to suit each customer, either weekly, fortnightly, monthly, or quarterly payments. All goods delivered free in private vans. Pay us a visit before going elsewhere, and ascertain our prices. Beware of other firms copying our advertisements. Bedroom completely furnished for 2s. weekly; sitting or Drawing-room for 2s. 6d. weekly. Lowest Cash Prices. No Security Required. Write for Prospectus. Post Free.

MANUFACTURERS' FURNISHING COMPANY,
113, Walworth-road, Elephant and Castle;
129, King-street, Hammersmith;
107, Whitechapel-road (opposite London Hospital); and 100, Old Kent-road (opposite Bricklayers' Arms Goods Station).

EMPIRE FURNISHING COMPANY,

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS.

Furniture supplied from £5 to £500 on our improved Easy Purchase System, which can be selected from our extensive stock in show-rooms at

134, EDGWARE-ROAD (near MARBLE ARCH) W.,

including all kinds of Furniture, Bedsteads, Bedding, Carpets, Linoleums, Overmantels, &c., suitable for either Furnishing Cottages, Hotels, or Mansions.

NO SECURITY REQUIRED. FREE DELIVERY.

Any single article can be had on our improved system, which is the best, most liberal, and suits everybody.

Terms, Weekly, Monthly, or Quarterly.

Catalogues, with full particulars, free upon application to

EMPIRE FURNISHING COMPANY,
134, EDGWARE-ROAD, W. (near MARBLE ARCH).

FURNISH FOR CASH OR CREDIT.

THE CROWN FURNISHING COMPANY,
13, SEVEN SISTERS-ROAD
(A few doors from the Nag's Head, Holloway).

THOSE ABOUT FURNISHING should not miss an inspection of our

IMMENSE STOCK OF EVERY REQUISITE for Furnishing

DRAWING, DINING, OR BED-ROOM, suitable for cottage or mansion.

Terms to suit all classes. No Collectors. Private Vans. No Securities.

13, SEVEN SISTERS-ROAD.
Branch: 65, Holloway-road (near Highbury Station).

THE CENTRAL FURNISHING COMPANY,

303, FULHAM-ROAD, LONDON, S.W.,

FURNISH COMPLETELY any kind of Houses or Apartments. Large Show-room, and stock of every kind of Household Furniture, Pianos, Perambulators, &c., to select from. Best terms guaranteed.

£5 worth	...	11s. 0d. per month.	
£20 "	...	15s. 0d.	"
£30 "	...	22s. 0d.	"
£100 "	...	45s. 0d.	"

Or by special arrangement. Parties furnishing at this establishment and paying their instalments punctually will be allowed 5 per cent. discount at the end. This firm were the first to destroy the high terms merchants, and being owned by large capitalists can do what no other firms can. Prospectus, &c., free.

FURNITURE ON EASY TERMS.

BED and SITTING-ROOM Furnished throughout for £5, payable 2s. per week. No Security Required. Delivered Free.—STAR FURNISHING CO., 51, High-street, Kingsland (opposite Ridley-rd.).

FURNITURE ON EASY TERMS.

EVERY description New and Secondhand. Any quantity supplied from 1s. per week. No security required. Delivered free.—LOUIS JOSEPH, 69 and 61, Bala Pond-road, Dalston Junction, N. Estd. 1870.

SEWING MACHINES.

FAMILY HAND MACHINE,

Complete with Cover and all Accessories £2 15 0
On Stand and Table, with all Accessories £3 10 0

EASY TERMS. NOT HIRE SYSTEM.

BASSINETTES, MAIL CARTS.

S. DAVIS and CO.'S

ILLUSTRATED LIST of NEW DESIGNS for 1895 sent Post Free.

BASSINETTES ... ... From £1 1 0
MAIL CARTS ... ... " £0 9 6

FURNITURE.

FURNISH YOUR APARTMENTS OR HOUSE COMPLETE ON

S. DAVIS and CO.'S

Well-known Easy Payment System (NOT HIRE SYSTEM).

All Goods delivered free in plain vans. No Collectors. Transactions strictly private.

SPACIOUS SHOW ROOMS with Large and Varied Stock.

MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES, UNDER STORE PRICES.

BEDROOM SUITES, Complete ... From £4 17 6
DINING ROOM SUITES, Complete ... " £6 6 0

OVERMANTELS, CARPETS, LINOLEUM, GLASS, CHINA, and IRONWARE in Great Variety.

Country orders despatched day following receipt of order.

BICYCLES ON EASY TERMS.

S. DAVIS and CO., MANUFACTURERS OF LAUNDRY REQUISITES.

INDIARUBBER WRINGERS ...	From	£0 17 6
WRINGERS and MANGLES ...	"	£1 15 0
WASHERS ...	"	£1 0 0
IRONING STOVES ...	"	£1 0 0
PORTABLE COPPERS ...	"	£1 0 0
DAVIS' CELEBRATED KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES ...	"	£1 3 0

DAVIS' BAKERS' PATENT BOX MANGLES ON EASY TERMS (NOT HIRE SYSTEM).

EVERYTHING REQUIRED IN THE HOUSEHOLD CAN BE OBTAINED AT

S. DAVIS and CO.

FOR CASH OR CREDIT SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

CHIEF OFFICE AND WHOLESALE DEPOT:
241, 243, 245, 247, and 251, HIGH-STREET,
BOROUGH, S.E.

BRANCHES:
125, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD, W.
PERIOD HOUSE, BOROUGH, S.E.
[illegible], BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
[illegible] and 330, HOLLOWAY-ROAD, N.
[illegible], HACKNEY-ROAD, E.
[illegible], COMMERCIAL-ROAD, E.
144, THE GROVE, STRATFORD, E.
53 and 55, HIGH-STREET, PECKHAM, S.E.

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NEVER fail in removing the most obstinate cases of irregularity. Thousands use them, as they are the best, safest, and most effectual for female complaints. Boxes, 7½d., 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d. Sent free from observation from 117, Falcon-road, Clapham Junction, London. Advice free.

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IS acknowledged throughout the whole world to be the most certain remedy for GOUT, RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, and SCIATICA, a single dose affording relief within a few hours. Highly recommended by doctors and others.

Dr. Daly, M.D., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., writes:—"I have for some time recommended Reynolds' Gout Specific to my patients, and I am pleased to tell you, with the best results. I have in all cases found it a most valuable and speedy remedy."

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Sovereign Remedies for Skin Eruptions.

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TO CURE ECZEMA, SKIN ERUPTIONS, IRRITATION, PIMPLE, BLOTCHES, ULCERATED BAD LEGS, SORES, RINGWORM, CHILBLAIN, &c., use

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ARE composed of Steel, Pennyroyal, Bitter Apple, Aloes, Pil Cochia, and two other Drugs known only to Dr. Davis. No irregularity can resist them.

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SPORTS OF THE PEOPLE.

[The Events of the Week up to Wednesday Night will be found in "Larry Lynx's" Article.]

OUR SPORTING GALLERY.

For particulars of a new publication especially appealing to Footballers, which has been secured for the readers of "The People," see full advertisement on page 13.

HURST PARK JANUARY MEETING.

FRIDAY.

The Stewards' National Hunt Flat Race Plate.—Cranberry, aged, 12st 12lb (Mr. Waller), 1; Unionist, aged, 12st 12lb (Mr. Brook), 2; Bangle, aged, 12st 12lb (Mr. A. Hodson), 3. Six ran. Betting: 11 to 8 on Unionist, 5 to 2 agst Cranberry, and 100 to 7 agst Bangle.

The Club Steeplechase.—Wheatfields, 5yrs, 11st (Read), 1. Five ran. Betting: 11 to 4 agst Wheatfields, who alone finished.

The Earlsfield Selling Hurdle Race.—Rheingold, 4yrs, 11st (A. Nightingall), 1; Emery, 4yrs, 11st (Hall), 2; Probationer, 4yrs, 11st (Mr. Ripley), 3. Eight ran. Betting: 5 to 2 agst Rheingold, 6 to 1 agst Emery, and 10 to 1 agst Probationer.

The Surrey and Middlesex Handicap Steeplechase.—Emin, 6yrs, 10st 3lb (Dollery), 1; March Hare, 6yrs, 10st 10lb (Mr. J. B. Milne), 2; Waterford, aged, 10st 4lb (Mr. J. Widger), 3. Ten ran. Betting: 5 to 1 agst March Hare, 6 to 1 agst Emin, and 7 to 1 agst Waterford.

A Maiden Hurdle Race Plate.—Royal Harry, 5yrs, 11st 7lb (R. Adams), 1; Veda, 4yrs, 10st 10lb (Hickey), 2; Portfield, 4yrs, 11st (R. Woodland), 3. Twelve ran. Betting: 10 to 1 each agst Royal Harry and Portfield, and 100 to 8 agst Veda.

The Surbiton Steeplechase Plate.—Oxton, aged, 13st 3lb (Mr. E. G. Fenwick), 1; Dollar II., 5yrs, 11st 12lb (Halsey), 2; Chip, 6yrs, 12st 7lb (Acres), 3. Six ran. Betting: 3 to 1 agst Dollar II., 4 to 1 agst Chip, and 5 to 1 agst Oxton.

SCRATCHINGS.

We are officially notified by Messrs. Weatherby of the following scratchings:—Out of all engagements: Mount Pleasant (dead). Out of Stockbridge engagements: Flare.

WEIGHTS FOR THE SPRING HANDICAPS.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

Gangway, 5yrs 9st 4lb; Dumbarton, 4 8 11; Laodamia, 5 8 9; Victor Wild, 5 8 8; Clorane, 4 8 7; El Diablo, 6 8 5; Clwyd, 4 8 5; Harfleur II., 5 8 4; Medicis, 5 8 4; Dornroschen, 5 8 1; Amandier, a 8; Carrick, a 7 13; Sir Michael, 4 7 12; Son o' Mine, 4 7 12; Indian Queen, 4 7 12; Stowmarket, 4 7 12; Xury, 4 7 10; Athlone, 4 7 9; Euclid, 6 7 9; Grand Duke, 5 7 9; Immigrant, 5 7 9; Acrobat, 6 7 9; Hebron, 4 7 7; Northampton, 4 7 5; Middleham, 6 7 5; Green Lawn, 4 7 4; Street Singer, 4 7 4; Macready, 6 7 3; Wherwell, 4 7 3; Beggars' Opera, 4 7 2; Irish Car, 4 7 2; Lord Drummond, 3 7; Marnovia, 4 6 13; Vanguard, 6 6 13; Sancho Panza, 4 6 10; Undecided, 4 6 10; Missal, 4 6 10; Poets' Corner, 4 6 9; Black Andrew, 4 6 9; Earl of Annandale, 6 6 8; Lord George, a 6 8; Levybub, 3 6 7; Lottie's Dude, 3 6 7; Blarney, 4 6 5; San Giovanni, 5 6 5; The Owl, 3 6 3; St. Esmund, 3 6; Roan Aggie, 3 6.

LIVERPOOL GRAND NATIONAL.

Cloister, aged 13st 3lb; Horizon, 6 12 2; Why Not, a 12; The Midshipmite, a 11 9; Red Rube, 6 11 8; Manifesto, a 11 2; Ilex, a 11 2; Father O'Flynn, a 11 1; Lady Pat, a 10 13; The Primate, a 10 13; Prince Albert, a 10 12; Wild Man from Borneo, a 10 11; Shotaway, 6 10 11; Sarah Bernhardt, a 10 10; Ballynoe, dr. 6, 10 10; Ardcarn, a 10 10; The Soarer, 6 10 9; Cathal, 6 10 9; Swanshot, 5 10 9; Æsop, a 10 8; Redhill, a 10 7; Fanatic, 6 10 6; Black Duck, 6 10 6; Gentle Ida, 6 10 4; Royal Buck, a 10 4; Graig Olwey, a 10 3; Clanricarde, 6 10 3; Leybourne, a 10 3; Badminton, a 10 3; Thurles, a 10 2; Barbatello, a 10 2; Ballyohara, 6 10 2; Cock of the Heath, a 10 2; Detonator, 6 10 2; Paul, a 10 1; Excelsior, a 10 1; Caustic, 6 10 1; Gay Minstrel, a 10; Lady Ellen II., a 10; Kedar, a 10; Pampero, 6 10; Whitehead, a 9 13; Westmeath, 6 9 13; Van der Berg, a 9 13; Olymprey, a 9 13; Dalkeith, a 9 12; Philactery, a 9 12; March Hare, 6 9 12; Harlequin, a 9 12; Fin-ma-Coul II., 6 9 11; Fetlar, 6 9 10; King Charles, 6 9 10; Xylophone, 5 9 10; Waterford, a 9 10; Ravenswood, 6 9 10; Molly Maguire, 6 9 9; The Screw, a 9 9; Norton, a 9 9; The Islander, 6 9 9; Barcalwhey, 5 9 9; Calcraft, a 9 7; Kendal Green, 5 9 7; Covert Side, a 9 7; Emigrant, a 9 7; Leprechaun, a 9 7; Monk Lewis, a 9 7; Benediction, 6 disq.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.

Avington, 5yrs 9st 7lb; Ravensbury, 5 9 5; Gangway, 5 9 4; Son of a Gun, 5 8 7; Grey Leg, 4 8 7; Victor Wild, 5 8 6; None the Wiser, 4 8 5; Tanderagee, 5 8 4; Bushey Park, 6 8 2; Reminder, 4 8 2; El Diablo, 6 8 2; Stowmarket, 4 8 2; Son o' Mine, 4 8; Clwyd, 4 8; Worcester, 5 8; Clorane, 4 8; Indian Queen, 4 8; Llanthony, 6 7 12; Venia, 4 7 10; Xury, 4 7 7; Brocatelle, 6 7 7; Phocion, 5 7 7; Hebron, 4 7 5; Northampton, 4 7 5; Middleham, 6 7 5; Street Singer, 4 7; Hornbeam, 4 7; Filepa, 5 7; St. Hilaire, 4 7; Soult, 5 7; Kirkconnel, 3 7; Chin Chin, 4 7; Egerton, 5 6 12; Opera Glass, 4 6 12; Rodomont, 4 6 12; Arcano, 4 6 12; Wherwell, 4 6 12; Irish Car, 4 6 12; Queen of the Chase, 3 6 10; Ella Tweed, 3 6 9; The Owl, 3 6 9; Sancho Panza, 4 6 7; Kenny, 3 6 7; Gabrielle, 5 6 7; Bard of Avon, 4 6 7; Farndale, 4 6 7; Mogul, 3 6 4; Telescope, 3 6 4; Lottie's Dude, 3 6 4; Newsmonger, 3 6 4; Royal Favour, 3 6 4; Dr. Talmage, 3 6 4; Loyse, 3 6; Roan Aggie, 3 6; The Rush, 3 6.

GREAT METROPOLITAN.

Ravensbury, 5yrs 9st 10lb; Newcourt, a 9; Golden Drop, 6 8 4; Cypria, 5 8 1; Kilsallaghan, 5 8; Paddy, 6 8; Irish Wake, 5 7 12; Contract, 4 7 12; Knight of Rhodes, 5 7 12; Quilon, 5 7 9; Gleamaway, 5 7 8; Rockdove, 4 7 7; Barmecide, a 7 7; Merrywise, 5 7 5; Tilton, 5 7 5; Rodomont, 4 7 5; Glengall, 5 7 5; Bevil, 4 7 5; Lady Normanton, 4 7 5; Filepa, 5 7 5; Seville, 5 7 5; Opera Glass, 4 7 3; Barbary, 4 7 3; Lucerna, 4 7 1; Ha Ha, 5 7 1; Ivor, 4 7; Lorikeet, 4 7; Mervyn, a 6 12; Rose of Hampton, 4 6 12; Melton Prior, 4 6 12; Cornbury, 4 6 5; Hettie Sorrel, 4 6 5; Syndic, 4 6 5; Medici, 5 6 5; Master Munden, 5 6 5; Sacristy, 4 6 5; Michaelmas, 6 6; Ellen Bean, 3 6; Eclipse, 3 6; Two Bob, 4 6; Lady Merry, 3 6.

CHESTER CUP.

Ravensbury, 5yrs 9st 10lb; Son of a Gun, 5 8 10; Dobbins, 5 8 10; Newcourt, a 8 7; Constellation II., 4 8 7; Don Alzonzo, 5 8 6; Shancrotha, a 8 3; Bushey Park, 6 8 3; Pitcher, 5 8; Dare Devil, a 8; Quesitum, 5 7 13; Aborigine, 5 7 13; Portland, 6 7 12; Cypria, 5 7 10; Quilon, 5 7 10; Paddy, 6 7 9; Kilsallaghan, 5 7 9; Euclid, 6 7 7; Immigrant, 5 7 7; Son o' Mine, 4 7 7; Golden Drop, 6 7 7; Contract, 4 7 6; Filepa, 5 7 6; Insurance, a 7 5; Vanguard, 6 7; Street Singer, 4 6 13; Rockdove, 4 6 13; Penniless, 5 6 10; Rodomont, 4 6 10; Barbary, 4 6 9; Miss Winn, 5 6 9; Mowbray, 4 6 9; Tilton, 5 6 8; Sarawak, a 6 8; Uncle Joe, 4 6 7; Merrywise, 5 6 5; Rose of Hampton, 4 6 5; Imperialism, 3 6 5; Glentilt, 4 6 5; Dargle, 4 6 5; Florendean, 3 6 4; Remember Me, 3 6 4; Seville, 5 6 4; Hornbeam, 4 6 4; Bevil, 4 6 4; Mervyn, a 6 4; Theseus, 4 6 4; Clenstone, 4 6 3; Jim Selby, 3 6 3; Master Munden, 5 6 2; Hettie Sorrel, 4 6 2; Melton Prior, 4 6 2; The Rush, 3 6 1; Sacristy, 4 6; Lord of the Dale, 4 6; Bragget, 3 6; Lady Merry, 3 6; Roan Aggie, 3 6; Ellen Bean, 3 6.

KEMPTON PARK GREAT JUBILEE STAKES

Best Man, 5yrs 9st 10lb; Avington, 5 9 6; Gangway, 5 8 13; Ravensbury, 5 8 13; Throstle, 4 8 10; Stonenell, 6 8 6; None the Wiser, 4 8 5; Lagrange, 5 8 5; Victor Wild, 5 8 4; Laodamia, 5 8 4; Clwyd, 4 8 4; Grey Leg, 4 8 2; Clorane, 4 7 13; Blairfinde, 4 7 12; Worcester, 5 7 12; El Diablo, 6 7 12; Stowmarket, 4 7 12; Lady Minting, 4 7 11; Maundy Money, 4 7 11; Sweet Duchess, 4 7 10; Middleham, 6 7 9; Euclid, 6 7 9; Indian Queen, 4 7 8; Sempronius, 4 7 8; Dornroschen, 5 7 7; Priestholme, 4 7 7; Kirkconnel, 3 7 7; Xury, 4 7 6; Sir Michael, 4 7 6; The Lombard, 3 7 5; Marco, 3 7 5; Son o' Mine, 4 7 4; Venia, 4 7 3; Immigrant, 5 7 2; Court Ball, 4 7 2; Marietta, 5 7 2; Skirpenbeck, 4 7; Newsmonger, 3 7; Harry Reed, 4 7; Sarana, 4 6 13; Arcano, 4 6 13; Portmarnock, 3 6 13; Boxer, 3 6 10; Irish Car, 4 6 9; Hebron, 4 6 9; Melancholy, 4 6 9; Telescope, 3 6 9; Levybub, 3 6 8; Soult, 5 6 8; Northampton, 4 6 7; Hornbeam, 4 6 7; Dr. Talmage, 3 6 7; Wherwell, 4 6 7; Fealar, 5 6 6; Ottoman, 3 6 5; Garter Queen, 3 6 4; Cherry, 3 6 4; Choice, 3 6 4; Brumby, 5 6 2; The Tup, 3 6.

DOVERIDGE HANDICAP STAKES.

Medicis, 5yrs 9st 2lb; Clwyd, 4 9; Harfleur II., 5 8 12; Worcester, 5 8 8; Blairfinde, 4 8 8; Stowmarket, 4 8 8; Llanthony, 6 8 7; Carrick, a 8 7; Maundy Money, 4 8 7; United, 4 8 7; Red Heart, 3 8 6; Dornroschen, 5 8 3; Priestholme, 4 8 3; Athlone, 4 8 3; Speed, 4 8 2; Arcano, 4 8 1; First Consul, a 7 13; Marietta, 5 7 12; Ganges, 4 7 11; Undecided, 4 7 11; Macready, 6 7 10; Concealment, 6 7 10; Mecca, 4 7 8; Wherwell, 4 7 8; Irish Car, 4 7 7; Hebron, 4 7 7; Portmarnock, 3 7 7; Sancho Panza, 4 7 7; Simonburn, 4 7 6; Belton, 4 7 5; Amphidamas, 4 7 4; Levybub, 3 7 3; Lottie's Dude, 3 7 3; Ottoman, 3 7; Villiers, 3 6 12; Sardis, 3 6 12; Adderley, 3 6 9; Gas, 3 6 7; Amy Roberts, 3 6.

THE BATTHYANY STAKES.

Bethisy, 4yrs 9st; Go Lightly, 4 8 12; Saltator, 4 8 7; Beggars' Opera, 4 8 5; Conifer, a 8 4; Mountain Chief, 5 8 4; Golden Ensign, 4 8 3; Man of Ross, 5 8 2; Northampton, 4 8 2; Leominster, 5 8 1; Cunctator, 4 8; Missal, 4 7 12; Pet of the Fancy, 5 7 10; Ganges, 4 7 10; Isagon, 4 7 10; Sarawak, a 7 9; St. Reine, 5 7 9; McCrankie, 4 7 7; Telesinus, 4 7 7; Dirk, 4 7 7; Fabia, 3 7 7; Sally Brass II., 5 7 6; Chat Moss, 3 7 6; Gold Reef, a 7 5; Reliance, 4 7 5; Pardalo, 3 7 5; Chasseur, 3 7 4; Bonspiel, 3 7 4; Compton Miss, 3 7 1; High and Low, 3 7; Lavande, 3 7; Grig, 3 6 13; Small Mint, 3 6 12; Niade, 3 6 11; Estar, 3 6 10; Santeur, 3 6 10; Besom, 3 6 9; Amy Roberts, 3 6 7; Tokio, 3 6 6; Mint o' Money, 3 6 4; Sunfish, 3 6.

NOTTINGHAM SPRING HANDICAP.

Dumbarton, 4yrs 9st; Victor Wild, 5 8 8; Clwyd, 4 8 8; Hardeur II., 5 8 3; Worcester, 5 8 2; Stowmarket, 4 8 2; Red Heart, 3 8; United, 4 7 13; Athel, 4 7 13; Dornroschen, 5 7 11; Athlone, 4 7 11; Grand Duke, 5 7 10; Speed, 4 7 10; Venia, 4 7 9; John Morgan, a 7 7; Acrobat, 5 7 6; Egerton, 5 7 6; Undecided, 4 7 5; Ganges, 4 7 5; Macready, 5 7 4; Flare Up, 5 7 3; Irish Car, 4 7 3; Concealment, 5 7 2; Sancho Panza, 4 7 1; Tilton, 5 7; Whisperer, 6 7; Melancholy, 4 7; Simonburn, 4 7; Wherwell, 4 7; Hebron, 4 6 13; Montpensier, 4 6 13; Winford, 4 6 13; Amphidamas, 4 6 13; Telescope, 3 6 11; Rodomont, 4 6 11; Lottie's Dude, 3 6 10; Lesterlin, 3 6 10; Levybub, 3 6 10; San Giovanni, 5 6 10; Plutocrat, 4 6 10; Antonio Pierri, 4 6 8; Sardis, 3 6 7; Matabele, 3 6 7; Poets' Corner, 4 6 4; The Corsican, 3 6.

EARL SPENCER'S PLATE.

Bethisy, 4yrs 9st; Ingebrigt, 5 8 9; Glengarry, 4 8 6; Sweet Auburn, 4 8 5; Conifer, a 8 3; Marnovia, 4 8 2; Mountain Chief, 5 8; Northampton, 4 8; Missal, 4 7 13; Sally Brass II., 5 7 13; Floss, a 7 12; Man of Ross, 5 7 12; Persona, 4 7 11; Pet of the Fancy, 5 7 10; Sarawak, a 7 3; Coelus, 6 7 2; Queen of the Chase, 3 7 2; Chat Moss, 3 7 1; Dr. Talmage, 3 7; Blarney, 4 6 13; Compton Miss, 3 6 12; Chasseur, 3 6 11; Brooklyn II., 3 6 9; Diplomat, 3 6 9; Golden Rain, 3 6 8; Brumby, 5 6 8; Mint o' Money, 3 6 5; Grig, 3 6 4; Gas, 3 6 4; Sequin, 3 6 3; Quill, 3 6 3; High and Low, 3 6 3; Lavande, 3 6 2; Besom, 3 6 1; Cardross, 3 6; Potboy, 3 6.

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.

Newcourt, aged, 9st 2lb; Son of a Gun, 5 8 10; Progression, 6 8 2; Contract, 4 8 1; Paddy, 6 8; Dare Devil, a 7 13; Irish Wake, 5 7 12; Llanthony, 6 7 10; Insurance, a 7 9; Golden Drop, 6 7 9; Quilon, 4 7 7; Pilot, 6 7 7; Houndsditch, a 7 5; Knight of Snowdoun, 5 7 4; Street Singer, 4 7 3; Lady Normanton, 4 7 2; Rodomont, 4 7 1; Convent, 5 7 1; Barbary, 4 7; Give It Up, 4 6 13; Theseus, 4 6 12; Seville, 5 6 12; Gabrielle, 5 6 12; Mombray, 4 6 11; Lucerna, 4 6 11; Ivor, 4 6 10; Merrywise, 5 6 10; Legal Tender, 4 6 10; Low Moor, 5 6 10; Rose of Hampton, 4 6 9; Bevil, 4 6 8; Ha-ha, 5 6 6; Lucy Cross, 4 6 5; Ilium, 4 6 3; Sacristy, 4 6 1; Master Munden, 5 6; Ben Shie, 4 6.

FUNERAL OF F. BARRETT.

The remains of the late Fred Barrett, the well-known jockey, were on Friday interred at the Newmarket Cemetery, amid general tokens of regret. The cortege started from his residence, Park-lane, shortly before three o'clock, the shops and private houses in the line of route to the cemetery being all closed and the blinds drawn. Several of the Newmarket trainers were present, as well as a large proportion of the townspeople, with whom the deceased was a general favourite.

UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

CAMBRIDGE.

On Friday the Cambridge crew journeyed to Baitsbite and back. The order of rowing was as follows:—Hope, Stewart, Beale, Adie, Pennington, Bonsey, Duncanson, Wauchope (stroke), and Begg (cox). Mr. Close coached.

OXFORD.

Snow and sunshine prevailed alternately on Friday, and there was a further decrease of the floods. The Oxford crew rowed twice to Iffley. Mr. Graham (Trinity) stroked, and the president coached from the stern. Tubbing exercise was afterwards indulged in.

PROPOSED DATE OF THE RACE.

The Exchange Telegraph Company's Oxford correspondent states that at the Boat Club meeting on Friday, March 30 was suggested as the date for the race. The challenge has not yet been received. The Torpids are fixed for March 30.

Mr. H. O. Middleton, of Magdalen College, who steered in the Magdalen eight, has died after a brief attack of peritonitis, resulting from a chill taken while boating.

"CALENDAR" ITEMS.

Next week's "Calendar" will be published on Wednesday, and will contain the acceptances for the spring handicaps.

The following races did not fill, and have been re-opened, to close on Tuesday next, Jan. 29th:—Craven Meeting—The Babraham Plate. Newmarket First Spring Meeting—The March Stakes.

EALING GOLF CLUB.

We are informed that the applications for membership for the new Ealing Golf Club have far exceeded expectations. This is in a great measure due to the fact that the club has not, like most new clubs, to make its course, but is entering into possession of one of the oldest links in Middlesex, which has the advantage of being within 1½ miles of Ealing and Sudbury stations, the latter of which can be reached in 24 minutes from Broad-street, and the former in 12 minutes from Paddington. The hon. secretary is Mr. A. T. W. M'Caul, 21, St. Helen's-place, E.C.

BILLIARDS.

ROBERTS v. DIGGLE.

When play ceased in the match of 24,000 up, spot-barred, between J. Roberts and E. Diggle, the latter receiving 9,000 start, at Manchester on Thursday night, the totals stood:—Diggle, 21,479; Roberts, 14,416. Play was continued on Friday. Scores:—Diggle, 22,116; Roberts, 15,688.

BROTHER AND SISTER DIE TOGETHER.

An inquest was held on Friday at Clerkenwell on the bodies of William Seager and Caroline Seager, brother and sister, found dead at Benjamin-street, Clerkenwell. The old couple had not been seen for days, and when their room was entered they were found lifeless face to face on the floor. It was shown that though eccentric they were in comfortable circumstances. Dr. Miller attributed death to prussic acid.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

YEAR'S FIRES IN LONDON.

The annual report of Capt. Simonds, chief officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, states that in 1894 there were 3,061 fires in London, of which 151 resulted in serious damage. There were 73 fires in which life was lost, and the number of lives so lost was 82. No fewer than 474 of the fires were due to explosions or overturnings of mineral oil lamps.

LATEST MARKETS.

Corn.—Business has been quiet, and the tendency weak. There were fair supplies of produce available. English wheat moved off slowly at late rates. Foreign wheat was dull and weak. The flour market was quiet, and prices were about the same. For barley the demand was inactive, and prices had a drooping tendency. Oats sold slowly, with inferior corn moving in buyers' favour. Maize was in limited request, at about late rates. Beans and peas were quiet, without change. Arrivals of grain.—English and Scotch: Barley, 350; malt, 2,380; beans, 200 qrs. Foreign: Wheat, 94,120; barley, 46,980; oats, 84,240; maize, 5,740; beans, 2,470; peas, 2,200 qrs.; flour, 20,890 sacks.

Game and Poultry.—Haunches of doe venison, 15s to 25s each; forequarters of ditto, 6d to 8d per lb; Ostend rabbits, 6½d to 7½d; foreign turkeys, 7½d to 8½d; ditto geese, 6d to 7d; and Brittany butter, 1s to 1s 4d per lb; pheasants, 4s to 8s; partridges, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; and foreign black game, 2s to 4s per brace; foreign chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 9d; ditto ducks, 3s to 3s 6d; and wild rabbits, 1s 6d to 2s 4d per couple; large English hares, 3s 9d to 4s 4d; foreign ditto, 2s 6d to 3s; woodcocks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; capercailzie, 3s to 3s 6d; hen ditto, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; widgeons, 1s 4d to 1s 8d; snipes, 9d to 1s 2d; fat capons, 5s 6d to 7s 6d; large English fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; medium ditto, 2s 6d to 3s; large English ducks, 3s to 3s 6d; and Irish ditto, 1s 9d to 2s 9d each.

Billingsgate Fish.—Large fresh soles, 2s 6d to 3s per pair; small ditto, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb; mullets, 12s to 20s per dozen; large turbots, 12s to 15s each; whitings, 10s to 12s 6d per box; Norwegian herrings, 5s to 6s per 120; ditto kippers, 2s to 2s 6d per box; large lemon soles, 1s 4d to 1s 8d per pair; halibut, 9d to 1s per lb; native oysters, 3s to 4s per dozen; foreign ditto, 5s to 12s per 100; large hooked codo, 100s to 120s per score; crimped ditto, 10s to 12s each; trawl codlings, 4s to 5s per couple; Dutch smelts, 2s to 2s 6d per basket; Welsh ditto, 10s to 12s per 120; eels, 8d to 10d per lb; trawl haddocks, 1s 4d to 1s 8d per score; mild cured ditto, 4s to 8s 6d per dozen; large dories, 1s 9d to 2s 4d each; Yarmouth bloaters, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per box; and live sprats, 1½d to 2d per lb.

Central Fish.—A fairly good supply at market, prices being as under:—Soles, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; turbot, 8d to 10d; brill, 8d; eels, 9d to 1s; crimped skate, 4d to 5d; roker, 3d; cod, 3d to 5d; dried ling, 4d; plaice, 4d to 5d; dory, 6d; conger eel, 4d to 5d; fresh haddock, 3d; Findon ditto, 5d; and lemon soles, 6d per lb; fresh herrings, 6d to 1s; oysters, 6d to 2s; bloaters, 9d to 2s; and escallops, 8d to 10d per dozen; Digby chicks, 4d to 6d per bundle; crabs, 6d to 1s 6d; lobsters, 9d to 2s; and smoked haddocks, 2d to 1s each; smelts, 1s 6d per box.

Stratford Vegetable.—There was a fair supply of vegetables on offer at the market on Friday morning, but trade was slow. The following were the quotations:—Potatoes, English Imperators, 70s to 80s; ditto, main crop kidneys, 75s to 90s; Beauty of Hebron, 75s to 80s; ditto, magnum bonums, light soil, 75s to 90s; ditto, dark soil, 70s to 75s; and snowdrops, 75s to 90s; Scotch magnum bonums, 80s to 100s; ditto Bruces, 75s to 95s; and ditto main crop kidneys, 95s to 110s per ton; English onions, 8s to 10s per cwt; German ditto, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; and Dutch ditto, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; mangolds, 16s to 18s; and swedes, 14s to 20s per ton; collards, 2s to 2s 6d; savoys, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; and bunch greens, 4s to 5s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 6d to 1s 3d per half sieve; celery, 4s to 12s per dozen bunches; English apples, 3s to 6s; and American apples, 12s 6d per barrel.

Produce.—Sugar: Open market, January, 9s 1½d sellers, 9s buyers; March sold 9s 1½d. Coffee: Rio, January, 69s sellers, 67s 3d buyers. Turpentine, 21s. Linseed, spot, 37s 6d. Sulphate of ammonia, £11 10s.

WINTRY WEATHER.

REMARKABLE STORM IN LONDON.

FLOODS IN THE THAMES VALLEY.

The bad weather of the earlier part of the week culminated on Wednesday in a remarkable storm, which broke suddenly over the Thames valley, a great part of the South of England, and the Midlands. At daybreak scarcely a hint of what was coming appeared in the clear sky. Indeed, up to nearly 10 o'clock in London the day promised to be mild for January, the frost of Monday and the snowfall of Tuesday having given way to a rapid thaw. The weather prophets, no doubt, foretold snow squalls, as they had been steadily predicting ever since the thermometer had tended downwards, and the country all around to whiten. Swiftly, almost before the gas could be lit, the sky clouded, and darkness like that of a black fog warned us of something borne on the fierce blasts of wind which began to make themselves heard. Lightning flashed and thunder pealed for a few minutes, and then heavy showers of hail fell, followed by a driving storm of snow, quite comparable in intensity to the blizzards of Western America. In less than half an hour it was all over. The sky cleared, and the cold winter sun shone forth, though, instead of a thaw, a fierce frost set in, without a flake of the snow which, a few minutes before, had been sweeping down in bitter blasts. Brief as it was, the storm had caused so much damage as to render it memorable. A man was struck by lightning near Ludgate-hill Station, and, at less than half a mile distance, the bells of St. Clement Danes church rang out a paralytic sort of peal, simultaneously with one of the thunder claps. Windows were smashed by the hail, horses were thrown down, and the drivers and passengers of the omnibuses and tramcars were glad to seek refuge from the storm anywhere but on the roofs of those vehicles. The steeple of St. Stephen's Church, in Rochester-row, was struck by a lightning flash, which—according to the sufficiently accurate description of an eye-witness—nearly blinded him, and "passed into the church by the window, and then out by the door," not, however, before it had—aided by a defective gas-pipe—set the belfry on fire. An elderly lady died of the shock produced by the storm, horses ran wildly through the streets, and a host of similar mishaps are reported within the brief duration of the storm. The phenomena which occurred in London were reproduced in Dover, and the havoc done along the Thames Valley is paralleled by the accounts received from the open country in the Midlands, from which comes a monotonous tale of fallen trees, unroofed cottages, and broken limbs. The gale extended across the Channel, and at Calais the sea was too heavy for the midday mail to leave, while serious damage was done to the shipping in that port.

The Thames, at Windsor, fell 3in. in the course of Thursday morning, and a slight but general abatement of the inundations was everywhere perceptible. At Barnespool and Eton a similar subsidence was recorded, and a telegram from the Upper Thames Conservancy engineer stated that the water was falling very steadily at Oxford and Reading. In the afternoon, however, the river at Windsor Bridge was again apparently on the rise, and the evening was showery.

A blizzard of exceptional violence broke over Kingston and the neighbourhood on Wednesday, and did a considerable amount of damage. One remarkable result of the storm was the ringing of the fire alarm, it is supposed by the lightning.

A gale of great violence raged in the Channel all day from the north-west, interrupting the cross-Channel service. Several vessels lost their anchors and chains and were towed into Dover Harbour. A considerable number of vessels sought shelter in Dover roadstead. Towards midday a squall of an exceptional character passed over Dover seaward.

The River Trent in the Newark district was still rising on Wednesday, and a large amount of damage was done on both sides of the Midland Railway. The flood extends as far as the eye can see, and the tops of the hedges are only just visible above water. Early in the morning a violent snowstorm and hailstorm passed over the neighbourhood, accompanied by thunder and lightning.

The fen watercourses and rivers in Lincolnshire are all very much swollen. Cowbit Wash is now completely flooded. The Counter-drain and the Vernatts, two of the principal fen watercourses, are full to the banks, and the first-named has overflowed in places. In Deeping Fen farm work in places is stopped owing to the water on the land.

Extraordinary weather was experienced at Sheerness, an interval of darkness being followed by snow, with thunder and lightning and a north-westerly gale. A cutter manned by sailors of her Majesty's ship Pembroke was outside Sheerness Harbour laying out targets, when the weather became so boisterous that she was unable to return, her crew being obliged to beach her for safety. An armed launch belonging to the Sheerness School of Gunnery, which was at gun practice, drifted ashore near Barton's Point. The tug Grinder was sent to her assistance.

At Gillingham, near Chatham, there was a subsidence of the public highway for a distance of 120ft. The road thus destroyed had only recently been made up. A wall at the spot fell with a great crash.

A gale of great severity prevailed off the Tyne, and many vessels ran back for shelter. During the day the Norwegian steamer Nordkap was towed into the Tyne with her shaft broken, having been picked up off Coquet Island flying signals of distress. In making Shields Harbour a schooner had a narrow escape. She was drifting before the gale when the tug Brothers got a line aboard when the vessel was close to the rocks, and towed her into safety.

The lower parts of Herefordshire are seriously flooded. One bridge has been carried away. A frail canoe was launched on the River Wye by some boys, and the craft being upset the boys fell out. Three boys are missing.

The gale and tide carried away Eccles Steeple, near Hasborough, which has stood on the beach hundreds of years, and has been a landmark to sailors and fishermen for generations. The buildings formerly used as a lighthouse at Horsey were also demolished, and all along the coast large portions of cliff were washed away.

A woman named Wratten was found frozen to death in the snow at Boar's Isle, Kent. During the gale on the Medway, Frederick Marshall, mate of the barge William and Hannah, was blown overboard and drowned. The barque Turquoise, of and from London for Newcastle with chalk, foundered off the Dudgeon. The crew were saved and landed at the sailors' home, Great Yarmouth. The ship Forest Oak, of Sunderland, was wrecked on the Swin Sands. In response to a message from the Gunfleet Lighthouse, the volunteer lifeboat of Walton-on-the-Naze put off to the rescue in the teeth of a north-westerly gale. After many hours' continuous exertion the crew of four hands was rescued and landed at Walton. The Mousehole fishing-boat Arethusa is missing, nothing having been heard of her since Tuesday. Two brothers named Lander and their brothers-in-law named Cotton and Harvey were aboard the vessel.

THE PEOPLE'S HEROES—XVII.

A BRAVE WHEELWRIGHT.

Mr. John Stacey.

A gallant deed was that performed by Mr. John Stacey, wheelwright, of Outwoods, Newport, on Nov. 14. Mrs. Dodd, an old lady of over 80, had gone to the well in her garden to get water. While unfastening the chain to which the bucket was attached, she slipped and fell to the bottom of the well, a distance of some 52ft., breaking her ankle. Mr. Stacey, on being told of the occurrence, at once volunteered to go down the well. He took a ladder and lowered it to the unfortunate woman, and by means of a rope himself descended to the bottom. Here he placed the rope around Mrs. Dodd, and those on the surface proceeded to haul her up. By this means, and by holding on to the ladder, progress was made, but before the surface was reached Mrs. Dodd slipped, and would have again fallen to the bottom, had not Stacey heroically thrown himself across the well and so broke her fall. Another rope was fastened round Mrs. Dodd, and this time she was successfully drawn up to the surface. The woman was removed to the Stafford Infirmary, where she shortly after died. Stacey was in the water at the bottom of the well for nearly an hour, and his plucky conduct has been justly noticed by the Royal Humane Society, who have awarded him their bronze medal and certificate. For this brave action, and the presence of mind he exhibited on the occasion, his name is added to the list of the "People's" heroes.

AUDLEY MINE DISASTER.

The water entering the Audley mine from the old Diglake workings is steadily subsiding in volume, the reservoir in the abandoned Rookery Pit having fallen four feet in 24 hours. Some days must still elapse before the work of exploration can be resumed. The miners at Diglake held a meeting on Tuesday afternoon, at which resolutions were passed in favour of all further relief being administered through the North Staffordshire Permanent Relief Fund. The meeting also adopted resolutions of sympathy with the bereaved and with the proprietors of the mine.—The first annual meeting of the trustees of the relief fund subscribed in connection with the colliery disaster at Thornhill, by which 139 lives were lost, took place on Tuesday at Dewsbury. A vote of sympathy with the sufferers by the Audley catastrophe was carried, and the Mayor of Dewsbury moved that £100 be contributed towards the fund being raised, but it was ruled that the motion could not take effect by the trust deeds. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the refusal of the representatives of the Rotherham miners to hand over £200 promised to the fund, and legal proceedings were threatened, but the matter was eventually referred to the endowment trustees. A county meeting called by Lord Dartmouth, the lord lieutenant of Staffordshire, was held at Hanley on Wednesday, when steps were taken to raise a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the flooding of the Audley Colliery. The intimation was heartily welcomed that the Lord Mayor will open a fund at the Mansion House for the same purpose. The managers of the colliery experienced an unpleasant and unexpected surprise on Thursday. The exploring parties, on descending No. 1 and No. 2 shafts, found that the water had risen to the roofs. As pumping is continued unremittingly, this is taken to mean that the holding capacity of the disused 8ft. seam, into which the water from the old mine was diverted, was nothing like what was expected. Men are engaged fixing pipes at Boyle's Hall shaft, with a view to establishing an independent system of ventilation. The time of getting at the bodies is more remote than ever.

RUSSELL MATRIMONIAL SUIT.

In the suit instituted by the Countess Russell against her husband, Earl Russell, which stood for trial before Sir F. Jeune and a special jury in the Probate and Divorce Division on Thursday, Mr. Deane, on the part of Sir H. James, who appeared for Earl Russell, asked that a day might be fixed for the hearing of the suit. He wished, if possible, it should be taken next week.—His lordship said there was a difficulty in that being done, as it took ten days to summon a special jury. He could not then say when the case could be heard, but he would inquire, and endeavour to make provision for its being heard before the present sittings terminated.

JUDGE AND JUROR.

At the City of London Court, Mr. Deputy Judge Robins fined a juror the maximum sum for not being in his place when the jury were called at 10.30. The absent juryman subsequently made application to his honour to be exempted from paying the fine, giving it as his reason that he had travelled from Brighton that morning, and, owing to the train being late, he arrived at the court 20 minutes after the jury had been called.—His honour said that it was a reasonable excuse, because, as he had himself experienced, trains South of the Thames never arrived at their destination at the advertised times. It was the invariable rule, however, that trains North of the Thames always arrived to time.

HACKNEY WICK TRAGEDY.

On Monday Dr. Westcott held an inquest concerning the death of Lewis Thomas, 43, druggists' traveller, Trego-road, Hackney Wick, who poisoned himself after shooting at his wife.—The widow said he had been out of work until about six weeks ago, and since then he had been very intemperate. On the 17th inst. she went home to dinner and found him there. He appeared the worse for drink, and told her he was not going to work any more, and added she was not to go out again. Shortly after he said, "Kiss me, and say good-bye," and the next moment he drew a revolver and fired at her several times. He had never threatened to end his life, and this was the first time he had ever used any violence towards her.—P.S. Patrick Stokes said that when he went to the house he found the man lying on the floor, and he said he had taken spirits of salts. He found a revolver and several bottles about the place.—Verdict, temporary insanity.

The number of representatives of the monastic orders present at the reception at the Palace, Madrid on the occasion of the King of Spain's birthday is without precedent during the past 60 years, and has excited much comment. The Queen-regent gave a grand banquet in honour of his Majesty's birthday.

Mr. Justice North on Thursday heard a summons taken out to determine questions arising under the will of the Right Hon. Mary Anne, Baroness Forester, who bequeathed the residue of her estate, amounting to £400,000, to founding cottage hospitals and convalescent homes at Wenlock, Derbyshire. It was contended by the next of kin that that sum could not be spent. Mr. Justice North directed the funds to be handed over to the Forester Charity trustees, to be applied according to the will.

TRAGEDY IN WATERLOO-ROAD.

At Southwark on Thursday, James Miller Woodward, 23, described as a cheesemonger's assistant, was charged before Mr. Slade with unlawfully wounding with intent to murder Rachel Goldstein by cutting her throat with a razor at 76, Waterloo-road.—Dr. Merry, house surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital, deposed that prosecutrix was brought to that institution about 20 minutes past 8 that morning. She was suffering from a large gaping wound in the throat, which was 4in. long, and had completely severed the windpipe. The wound was a very dangerous one. She appeared to be sober, but was in a state of collapse. The wound was one which might have been caused by a razor, and considerable force must have been used. The woman was at present in a very critical state, and it was doubtful if she would recover.—P.S. Norman, 25 L, stated that about 8 o'clock that morning he was passing 76, Waterloo-road, when he hear cries of "Murder." Someone opened the door and witness went in, and saw a woman lying on the floor with her throat cut. Prisoner was struggling with three men, one of whom said, "This is the murderer." Witness caught hold of the prisoner and asked him if he had done it, and he said, "Yes, I done it with a razor," and he pointed to a razor which was lying on the floor close to the woman. All four men were in their shirt sleeves, and appeared as if they had just got out of bed. Prisoner said, "They intended doing me, but they were not sharp enough"; and he then pulled a watch and chain from under the bolster, and said, "This is what they wanted." Witness sent the woman at once to St. Thomas's Hospital, and told the prisoner he would have to go to the station. He said, "All right, I'll go quietly." At the station, when charged, the prisoner said, "Yes, I cut her throat."—Prisoner now said he had no questions to ask, and on the application of Insp. Martin, who had charge of the case, Mr. Slade remanded him for a week.

DEATH OF THE VICTIM.

Goldstein died in the Elizabeth Ward, St. Thomas's Hospital, on Friday afternoon.

TRAGEDY NEAR GRAVESEND.

A terrible tragedy was enacted near Gravesend on Monday. A man named John Sowter, of Denton, was walking across a field with his dog between one and two o'clock in the afternoon, when the animal ran into a disused chalk pit barking in a peculiar manner. Sowter, following the dog, saw in the pit a heap of old tins, from among which the hand of a boy was protruding. He at once removed the tins, and found two boys, aged about eight and ten years respectively, with their throats cut. They both appeared to be dead, although the bodies were quite warm. Sowter immediately informed the police at Denton of his discovery, and with several constables went to find the father of the boys. After searching for some time they found him in a thicket with his throat cut. He was turned over on his back, and Sowter took from his hand a knife. The man, whose name is Jackson, said "Let me alone—I am hungry." He died soon afterwards. The bodies of the boys were taken to a licensed house at Chalk. Jackson is a greengrocer living at Wellington-street, Gravesend. He is supposed to have been mentally deranged. About noon on Monday he was seen playing with the two boys near Gravesend. The boys murdered were the youngest of a family of six. Jackson had been out of work for practically six years, and that had so preyed on his mind that of late his conduct had been very eccentric. Further particulars of the double murder and suicide transpired on Tuesday. It appears that the crime was premeditated. The two boys were first stunned by Jackson, who afterwards cut their throats with an old one-bladed pocket-knife, which did not weigh more than an ounce. Jackson must have pressed the blade into the centre of the boys' throats, and deliberately forced the flesh apart, owing to the bluntness of the knife. He then seems to have made off across a neighbouring road into a park, where he tried to drown himself in a large tank used by cattle as a drinking trough. Failing in this attempt, he proceeded to a clump of trees some distance away; but, seeing the police approach, he cut his throat. An inquest was held on Wednesday as to the death of the two boys and also on their father. The jury decided that the man murdered his children and committed suicide while insane.

ALBERT CLUB RAID.

SUMMONSES DISMISSED.

On Thursday, at the Mansion House, the hearing of the case of the six defendants in the first charge—viz., that of using the Albert Club premises, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, for the purpose of betting with members and non-members resorting thereto—was again gone into, the immediate charge before the court being that against Warren Johnson. Mr. Mathews and Mr. Muir prosecuted on behalf of the City solicitors, and Mr. Horace Avory defended Johnson, Mr. C. F. Gill appearing for the club.—Mr. Mathews said they had had an opportunity since the last occasion of seeing the takings-book of the club, and of making an extract from it for the year 1894.—Insp. Downs, recalled, was examined as to this book. Mr. Muir went through the book month by month, and stated that in January, February, and March, there were daily items for dinners and billiards. In April, May, and June there were few items for either billiards and dinners. In August and September there were no items for dinners, and in October only two items.—Mr. Mathews and Mr. Avory had several little differences of opinion in the course of the proceedings.—The Alderman declared that evidence had been produced over and over again to show that Johnson betted in the club.—In the result the summonses were dismissed.

THE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

The Cabinet, it is stated, has decided to increase the expenditure mainly for works other than the building of ships. In 10 years four millions and a half are to be spent upon docks, harbour defences, dredging, magazines, extensions, and the like. Of that sum £704,000 will be placed upon the estimates this year. No great alteration is anticipated in the shipbuilding arrangements already prepared by the Admiralty.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

At Tuesday's sitting of the London County Council it was referred to a committee to consider the question of the insurance of the property of the council against fire, the statement being made that it was being charged exorbitant rates by the companies as the outcome of a "ring" they had formed.—Lord Farrer, Mr. Benn, M.P., and Mr. Roberts were among the speakers on a resolution, moved by Mr. Fardell, in favour of the transfer to a Government department or to the stipendiary magistrates of the power to grant music and dancing licences.—The proposal was defeated by 56 votes against 9.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

The first meeting of this board after the Christmas recess took place on Thursday, Lord George Hamilton, M.P., presiding. It was agreed to request the medical officer to report on the prevalence of diphtheria in London and elsewhere, and its alleged connection with elementary schools, and to advise what steps the board should take in the matter. A prolonged and rather personal debate took place with reference to certain defective school buildings. Another long discussion followed on the question of providing a permanent school in St. George's-row, Pimlico, and eventually a resolution was carried in favour of postponing the matter till Whitsuntide.

EXTRADITED.

At Bow-street, Hirsch and Hannah Gottlich were brought up, on remand, for extradition on charges of offences against the bankruptcy laws of Belgium.—The male prisoner was declared bankrupt on Dec. 15, but subsequently obtained diamonds on credit, and retained possession of them. He then left the country.—Det.-sergt. Sexton said since the last remand he had opened the prisoner's boxes and found, in a handbag, amongst other things, a diamond ring set with five stones, a diamond scarf-pin set with eight stones, a diamond bracelet, 20 spoons, two watches, a watch chain, a child's ring, three bangles, five pairs of earrings, six silver knives and forks, six dessert knives, another watch and chain, and two bracelets.—Mr. Lushington discharged the woman, against whom he said there was no evidence, and committed the male prisoner for extradition on the charge of fraudulent bankruptcy.

French papers have published articles expressing their satisfaction with the agreement between France and England regarding the delimitation of the Sierra Leone frontier.

Major Hambrough appealed on Thursday before the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justices Lopes and Rigby in the Appeal Court against the judgment and verdict given in the Queen's Bench Division in the case of Hambrough v. the Mutual Insurance Company of New York. Mr. Boxall, who appeared for the appellant, said the legal grounds for setting aside the judgment were that there was no evidence that could be properly laid before the jury of the alleged fraudulent statements of Monson.

"IN THE SWIM."

BY A CITY SHARK.

The markets have been a good deal calmer; the feverishness which lately characterised some of the leading speculative departments is no longer in evidence. Money continues abundant; the supply increases much more quickly than the demand, although the latter is considerably augmented by Stock Exchange requirements. Perhaps the most noteworthy incident is the record price of 105-6 for Consols, quite a fancy value, in my opinion. It is due, of course, to enforced purchases on behalf of the savings banks; this absorption goes on almost continuously, whereas it is only now and then that holders are tempted to bring stock into the market. The highly satisfactory dividend declared by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway imparted a strong stimulus to the other "heavy" lines. But this effect was subsequently weakened by the somewhat serious difference of opinion between the directorates of the Metropolitan and Sheffield lines. From what comes to my ears, I incline to the opinion that this "rift in the lute" will soon be sealed up; it would be simply suicidal to let the dispute go any further. American rails have been more or less dull, owing to weakness at New York. But the "set back" does not amount to much on balance, while there is no denying that the undertone of the department continues to improve. Were a strong "bull" movement to dominate Wall-street, it is certain that the better sorts of Yanks would go up rapidly. London is quite ready to lend a hand, but waits for New York to give the initiative. Owing to a recovery of confidence on the Continental Bourses, "international," South American, and South African securities are lively once more. There seems every likelihood of the gold mining "boom" making a fresh start, should this month's returns from the Rand show another augmentation of output. Matabeleland promises, too, to shortly come to the front as a candidate for British monetary support. If the expectations of the South Africa Company are anything like fulfilled, this field for mining enterprise should rival the Witwatersrand in its "potentiality" of riches beyond the dreams of avarice. "Chartereds" are a bit stronger than they were, but the premium still looks rather stiff for shares whose intrinsic value is purely prospective. "A pig in a poke" may have the makings of succulent pork, but it is quite possible, all the same, to pay too high a price for the animal. My advice to those meditating the purchase of gold mining shares is to make selection among the cheaper kinds and to buy right out. They are not the sort of things for poor people to touch, but afford excellent openings for the speculative investment of surplus savings. It would be advisable, too, to spread the sum in hand over several mines, instead of putting all the eggs into one basket.

MONEY MARKET.

City, Saturday.

Consols relapsed. Foreign Securities quiet. Home Rails inactive. Americans quiet. Canadians easier. Latest quotations:—Consols, 105 ⅛; Ditto Account, 105 ⅛; Two-and-a-Half Per Cents., 103 ⅛.

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

Brighton Defrd., 116, ½
Caledonian, 130½, ⅝
Ditto Defrd., 42½, 3½
Chatham Ordry., 19½, 20
Ditto Pref., 124½, 5½
Ditto, 2nd Pref., 87 8
East Lon. Cnsldtd., 7½, ⅝
Great Eastern, 80½, ⅝
Great Northern A, 55 6
Ditto Def., 55½, ¾
Ditto Pref., 118, 19
Great Western, 163½, 4½
Hull and Barnsley, 36 ½
Lanc. and Yorks., 118 19
Metropolitan 84½, 5
Ditto District, 29½, ⅝
Midland, 156 ½
North British, 38½, ⅝
Pref. 78½ 9½
North-Eastern, 167½, 8½
North-Western, 180, ½
Sheffield Defrd., 23½, ¾
Sth. Eastern Defrd., 92½ 3
South-Western, 198, 200

FOREIGN BONDS.

Argentine, 1886, 65½, 6½
Ditto Funded, 70½, ⅝
Brazilian, 1889, 76½, ⅝
W. of Minas Rly., 80½, ½
B. Ayres Water, 27, 8
Chilian, 1886, 94½, 5½
Costa Rica A, 34 7
Ditto B, 27 30
Egyptian Unified, 105, ¼
Ditto Dairasanieh, 103, 5
Ditto Domain, 103 5
French 3 pr Cents, 101 2
Ditto 3½ per Cent., 107, 8
Guatemala Internal, 26, 8
Guatemala External, 25, 7
Hungn. 4 p.C., 1881, 100½, 1½
Italian 5 per Cnts., 85½, ¾
Mexican 6 p.C. 1888, 74, ¾
Paraguay Bnds., 1886, 11, 13
Peruvian Corpn., 5½, 6
Ditto Pref., 5½, 6
Ditto Debenture, 42½, ½
Portuguese 3 p.C., 24½, 5
Russian 4 per C., 102½, 3½
Spanish 4 per C., 72½, ¾
Turkish 1891, 104, ½
Uruguay, 3½ per C., 53½, ¾
Venezuela, 44 6

UNITED STATES RAILWAYS.

Atchison, 14½, ¾
Do. Income Bonds, 19, ½
Central Pacific, 13½ 14½
Chgo. Mil. & St Paul, 56½ ¾
Dnvr & RioGrande, 11½, ⅝
Ditto Pref., 35, ½
Erie, 10½, ¾
Illinois Central, 88½, 9
Lake Shore, 140, 2
Louisville & Nshvlle, 54½, ¾
Missouri & Texas, 13½, ¾
New York Central, 101½, 2
New York & Ontario, 14½ ¾
Norflk & West, Prf., 17½, ½
North Pacific Pref., 16½ ¾
Pennsylvania, 51½, 2½
Pen. & Ohio, 1st Mort., 14½ ¾
Reading, 4½ ¾
Union Pacific, 9½ ¾
Wabash Pref., 13½ 14½

OTHER AMERICAN RAILWAYS.

Buenos Ay. Gt. Sn., 104 & 5
Canadian Pacific, 57 [illegible]
Central Argentine, 67, [illegible]
Grand Trunk Ord., [illegible]
Ditto 1st Pref., [illegible]
Ditto 2nd Pref., [illegible]
Gnd. Trunk 3rd Pref., 12½ 13½
Ditto 4 per C. Gtd., [illegible]
Ditto 1st Pref., [illegible]
Ditto 2nd Pref., [illegible]
Nitrate Rails, [illegible]

MINES AND LAND.

Afrikander, 1 [illegible]
Bayly's Reward, 14/ 14/6
Bechuanaland, 33/ 34/
Buffelsdoorn, [illegible]
Chartered, [illegible]
City and Sub., [illegible]
Crown Reef, [illegible]
De Beers, [illegible]
East Rand, 50/ 51/
Ferreira, [illegible]
Goldfields of Africa, [illegible]
Glencairn, [illegible]
Henry Nourse, [illegible]
Heriot, [illegible]
Jagersfontein, [illegible]
Jubilee, [illegible]
Jumpers, [illegible]
Langlaagte, [illegible]
Mason and Barry [illegible]
May, [illegible]
Main Reef, 14/ 15/
Modderfontein, [illegible]
Mysore, [illegible]
Nigel, [illegible]
Oceana Land, [illegible]
Orion, [illegible]
Primrose, [illegible]
Rand Mines, [illegible]
Rio Tinto, [illegible]
Robinson, [illegible]
Salisbury, [illegible]
Sheba, [illegible]
Simmer & Jack, [illegible]
Transvaal Gold, [illegible]
Van Ryn, [illegible]
Wemmer [illegible]
W. Austrln. Gld. Con., [illegible]
White Feather, [illegible]
Wolhuter, [illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS.

Allsopp, Ordinary, 129, 30
Ditto Pref., [illegible]
Anglo-Amer. Ord., [illegible]
Ditto Pref., [illegible]
Coats, [illegible]
Ditto Pref. [illegible]
Eastman's Ord., [illegible]
Ditto Pref., [illegible]
Hyderabad Decn., [illegible]
Olympia, [illegible]
Suez Canal [illegible]

MISHAP TO PRINCE AND PRINCESS ADOLPHUS OF TECK.

As Prince and Princess Adolphus of Teck were driving through Chester from Eaton to the meet of the Cheshire Hunt, on Friday, they were overtaken by a sudden snowstorm. One of the horses slipped and fell in Eastgate-street, and the occupants of the carriage had a narrow escape. They alighted, and the horse was got up. As the storm showed no sign of abating, the party abandoned the hunting appointment and returned to Eaton.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The business of the second January Session, which commences to-morrow, is of a very light character, both numerically and as regards the nature of the crimes charged against persons awaiting trial. There are only two or three judges' cases. The only charge of murder is that preferred against Reginald Saunderson, who was committed to the last Sessions. A postponement of the trial was then granted in order that the accused might be under further observation to ascertain the condition of his mind. The opinion of the medical experts on this point will probably be made known when the prisoner is brought up to plead on Wednesday. There are no charges of manslaughter, but several cases of commercial fraud, forgery, &c. Between 60 and 70 prisoners await trial. The Judges on the rota are Mr. Justice Grantham, Mr. Justice Wills, and Mr. Justice V. Williams.

The Plymouth School Board election resulted in a denominational victory. On the old board the unsectarian party were in a majority of one; on the new they are in a minority of three.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the National Bank of Wales held at Cardiff on Thursday, it transpired that there was over half a million deficit. The balance sheets issued had been altogether fallacious, the profits made at the branches being swallowed up by mismanagement at headquarters. It was decided to take proceedings against the officials with a view to recover such sums as they might be found legally liable for.

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